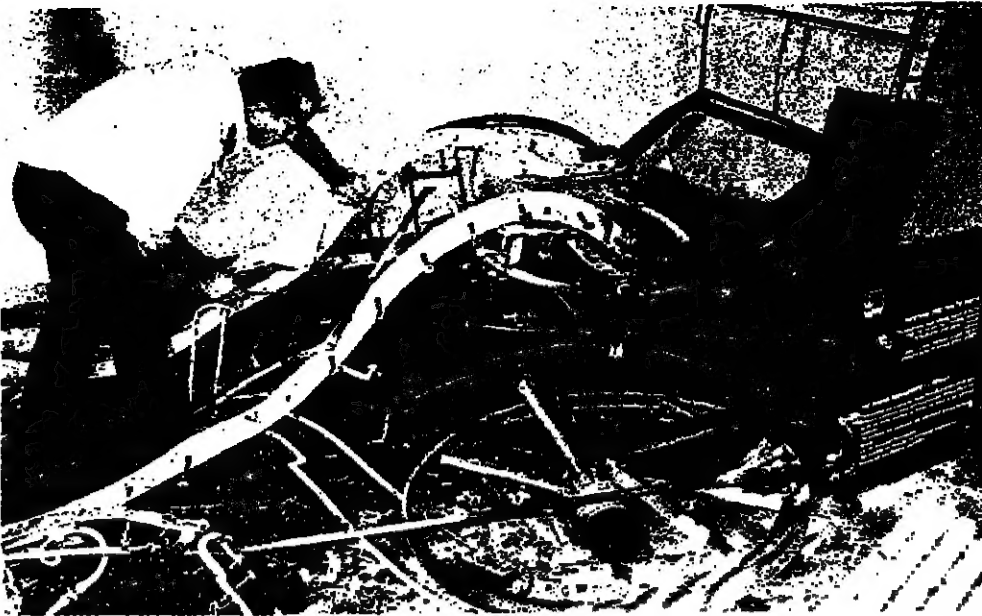
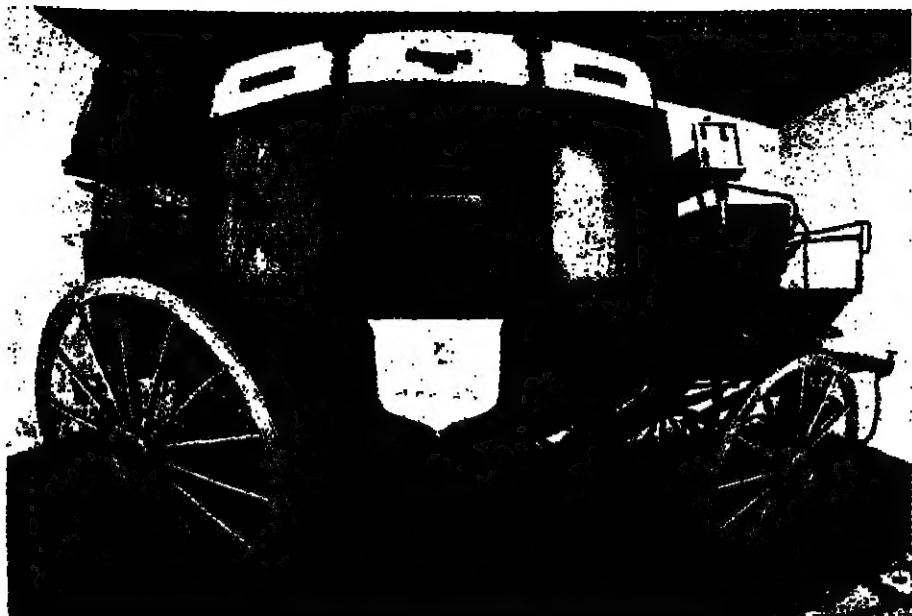




Amal lifts siege, page 3

History into ashes — Montefiore carriage burns



By HERB KEINON For The Jerusalem Post
A fire set by arsonists before dawn yesterday reduced the historic Montefiore carriage in Jerusalem's Yemin Moshe neighbourhood to a pile of bent springs and mangled metal. The police had not made any arrests by last night. According to Rami Yaffe, deputy commander of the Jerusalem Fire Brigade, traces of petrol and pieces of rags were found around the burnt carriage. He said the fire had already destroyed most of the carriage by the time his men arrived at the scene at 3:45 a.m. The carriage, well over 100 years old, transported Sir Moses Montefiore on his many journeys around the Holy Land between 1827 and 1875. It had been on display behind iron bars

near Montefiore's windmill in Yemin Moshe since 1968. The Jerusalem municipality has already asked experts to try to reconstruct an exact replica of the carriage, a municipal spokesman said yesterday. Ten-year-old Benjamin Adar was one of those upset by the sight of the charred remains yesterday morning. "Why would someone want to burn a piece of history? Who could do this?" he asked as older passers-by walked past the carriage, shook their heads and speculated about who was responsible. Yaffe said he had at least one clue: "I'm sure it was somebody without a heart." (Photos by Richard Nowitz, Brian Hendler).

West Bank killings

Settlers may have fired fatal shots

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter
RAMALLAH. — Jewish settlers have been linked to Monday's fatal shooting of a 12-year-old at the Balata refugee camp and the killing of two students at Bir Zeit University last week.

The investigators believe that the fatal shots at the Balata camp were fired from a car carrying settlers and soldiers which — according to soldiers at the site — passed by the camp at about the time the boy was killed. Investigators do not know the calibre of the bullet which struck the boy, since his body did not contain a bullet. According to Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, however, there are indications that the bullet which hit the boy was of a different calibre than those used by the IDF.

An officer who lives in a West Bank settlement yesterday admitted to shooting one of the students killed at Bir Zeit last week. The career officer who serves in the Ramallah area said yesterday that he had been at Bir Zeit with another officer and a small group of about ten soldiers, and had been attacked from various directions by a barrage of stones and metal bars hurled by students from a distance of some fifteen metres.

He said rubber bullets had had a shorter range than the stones and even when they fell a student, the rest continued hurling projectiles. "When you're up against a wall like that, you have no alternative," he said.

Students at Bir Zeit University said yesterday that the army's behaviour during last week's fatal incident had differed drastically from its previous handling of demonstrations at the campus. The student said that military government officers who had previously negotiated with the university had been replaced by new officers.

Past confrontations had taken place according to unwritten rules, the students said. Students would throw stones, the two sides would sometimes curse each other, and then dozens of tear gas canisters would be fired before the troops started shooting. Last week, according to the students, the troops started shooting after firing only some six or seven tear gas grenades.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday ordered an investigation into the case of a civilian shown on television this week firing in the air during a disturbance at the Ramallah nurses college.

The man, who is responsible for

security in a West Bank settlement, told Israel Radio yesterday that he had been accompanying a bus carrying children from the settlement of Pesagot to Jerusalem, and had fired five times in the air to prevent demonstrators from approaching the road near the college. He said he had received approval by wireless from the area commander to disperse the demonstrators. The commander however informed Israel Radio that he had in fact told the man to leave the area.

Rabin yesterday toured the sites of current tension in the West Bank, including the old campus of Bir Zeit University and Balata, which has been under curfew for three days. He was accompanied by OC Central Command Ehud Barak and by Shmuel Goren, coordinator of activities in the territories. Chief of General Staff Moshe Levy visited

First U.S. reaction

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — The White House yesterday deplored the outbreak of violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and said it was contacting Israeli authorities to ascertain the facts.

White House Spokesman Larry Speakes said at a news briefing: "We are contacting Israeli authorities...to ascertain the facts."

"We regret the loss of life and injuries...We do not have all the facts but we do deplore this violent event."

"Obviously this cannot advance efforts to achieve peace and reconciliation, which are so urgently needed in the Middle East."

with troops in the area, who have been heavily reinforced.

Widespread disturbances continued to rock the Gaza Strip yesterday.

A 16-year-old girl was lightly wounded in the wrist in Gaza when soldiers opened fire to disperse a demonstration at a school.

Thousands of demonstrators gathered at the Bnei Brak refugee camp, where a 16-year-old youth was critically wounded on Tuesday. Troops armed with clubs, and equipped with helmets and shields, drove the demonstrators back into the camp.

Demonstrators burned tires and stoned Israeli vehicles at the Nuseirat refugee camp, and in Gaza. Students left classes throughout

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Nakash pal planned big gold heist

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The intended victim of the foiled highway robbery of March 17, 1985, in which William Nakash was arrested was a "senior clergyman" on his way back from Jordan with 60 gold bars and over \$2 million.

One of the participants in the foiled heist, Meir Cohen, subsequently turned state's evidence, in a deal which stipulated that Nakash also not be brought to trial.

Well-placed sources have said that Cohen had "very important information" to impart, and there is speculation that this pertained to the investigation of Rafi Levy, the senior Interior Ministry official accused of bribery.

This case also involved Armenian Archbishop Shaha Ajamian.

The identity of the targeted clergyman has been kept secret, as have other details of the trial in the Jerusalem District Court in which two other participants in the heist were found guilty, after concluding a plea-bargain agreement.

A police source told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that the target of the 1985 heist was Archbishop Yeshighe Derdarian, the Armenian patriarch who ousted Ajamian from the Armenian synod, although other versions have a Greek prelate as the target.

Meanwhile, a copy of the French autopsy report on Abdallah Hakkar, killed by Nakash on February 22, 1983 in Besancon, reveals that the man was hit by eight bullets fired from four different weapons.

Some Nakash supporters have claimed that he had not intended to kill Hakkar, but had acted in "self defence," and had wanted to teach Hakkar a lesson for harassing Jews.

The State Attorney's Office decided yesterday that its own representative — and not an outside lawyer — would defend before the High Court of Justice Justice Minister Avraham Shari's decision not to extradite Nakash.

Shari and Attorney-General Yosef Harish met twice earlier with attorney Renato Yarak, a former director of the ministry's High Court Division, who had agreed to defend Shari as a hired lawyer.

But Senior Ministry sources explained privately last night that "since Harish has decided that we must defend Shari's decision — which is basically indefensible — then at least we shouldn't waste thousands of dollars in the process."

'Reagan okayed Iran deal'

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — President Reagan yesterday pledged once again to clear up the Iran arms scandal as quickly as possible, insisting that he knew nothing about the diversion of profits from those sales to the rebels in Nicaragua.

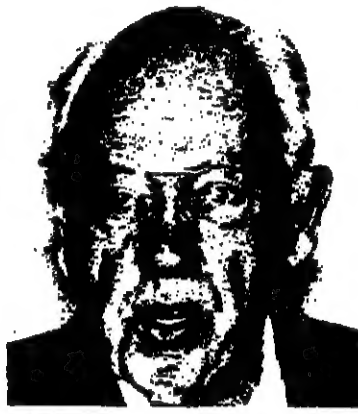
But a ranking Democratic member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Rep. Stephen Solarz of New York, yesterday emerged from several hours of closed-door hearings with Central Intelligence Agency Director William Casey to tell reporters that Reagan "almost certainly" authorized the operation.

Another member of the panel, Republican Robert DeWine of Ohio, called Solarz's statement "nothing short of outrageous," maintaining that nothing Casey said could lead to that conclusion. DeWine said that there was "no evidence" to link the president to the Contra slush fund.

Casey, for his part, was said by committee members to have insisted that he, too, knew nothing about the Contra connection to the Iran arms sales until it was disclosed by Attorney-General Edwin Meese late last month.

Democratic Rep. Dante Fascell of Florida, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, described Casey's secret testimony as "extraordinary" but refused to provide details. Fascell did say that Meese may have spoken "with too much haste" last month in maintaining that only Lt. Col. Oliver North and Vice Adm. John Poindexter, who recently resigned from the National Security Council, knew of the operation.

Republican Congressman William Broomfield of Michigan, the ranking minority member on the panel, said that it was now clear that some



William Casey (Reuters telephoto)

"wrongdoing" had occurred and that some CIA officials had acted with "very poor judgment." He said that some "restructuring" of the CIA may now be in order.

Solarz, carefully weighing his words, said that it was "absolutely clear" to him that neither Poindexter nor North could have conducted the elaborate Iran arms-Contra funding operation on their own — "without the approval of a higher authority."

Solarz then suggested that the "higher authority" was "almost certainly" the president himself. The congressman declined to discuss publicly what Casey had said during the secret session.

Former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane said yesterday that Israel had submitted a list of 800 "moderate" Iranian leaders in an effort to persuade the U.S. to open political dialogue and an arms-supply relationship. It was reported yesterday.

McFarlane's remarks here leaked from his closed-door testimony to the House Foreign Affairs Committee. One of the names on the secret list was that of Speaker of the Iranian Parliament Rafsanjani.

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, McFarlane was told by David Kimche, the Foreign Ministry director-general, that these Iranian moderates could be cultivated by U.S. arms sales to Iran.

McFarlane has confirmed previously that his talks in Washington with Kimche in early July 1985 represented an effective turning-point in the U.S. decision to establish an Iranian initiative, resulting in August of that year in Reagan's first authorization of an Israeli arms shipment to Iran.

The former U.S. official, who in May of this year flew secretly to Tehran, said that Kimche had strongly urged the U.S. to open talks with an Iranian intermediary in Europe, Manucher Ghorbanifar, who was supposedly close to Rafsanjani and Prime Minister Musavi.

In its report yesterday, the *Journal* said that Kimche had actually given McFarlane a seven- or eight-page, type-written list of names of senior Iranian officials constituting a faction receptive to improved ties with the West.

Under sworn testimony, McFarlane is said to have told the panel that the Iranian officials wished to improve relations with the U.S. with a view to bringing to an end the Iran-Iraq war, and out of concern about a potential threat from the neighbouring Soviet Union.

Israeli officials have repeatedly insisted that the U.S. initiated the Iran arms deals, largely in order to win the release of American hostages in Lebanon. They deny that this strategy was Israel's idea. Israel, they say, was merely responding to an American request for assistance.

U.S. officials yesterday said that Israel had several reasons of its own for urging the U.S. to establish a political dialogue with Iran and to

(Continued on Back Page)

Economic reform sparks opposition

By SARAH HONIG
and MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporters

TEL AVIV. — Vice Premier and Labour leader Shimon Peres gave qualified support yesterday to the plan to reform the tax structure and capital market proposed by Finance Minister Nissim, which requires a large budget cut. Prime Minister Shamir, the Likud chief, has given it his full backing.

Nissim yesterday met Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar to discuss the new policies, which involve lowering tax rates and abolishing tax exemptions on many forms of financial assets.

Kessar made no official comment on the plan, and said that the Histadrut would formulate its own economic proposals before Sunday, when the budget for the next fiscal year is to be presented to the cabinet. Treasury officials insist that the reform package cannot be effective without a budget cut of NIS 500 million.

Differences over the reform package could potentially escalate into a battle between two major parties, political observers said yesterday. Some thought it unlikely that Nissim would be able to amass enough support for the plan to present it to the cabinet this Sunday. They predicted a fortnight of give and take on its various aspects.

Political sources in both large parties agreed last night that the apparent support expressed by Peres in no way puts the lid on expressions of discontent in Labour. The Labour ministers are to meet in caucus tonight.

Likud sources told *The Jerusalem Post* that Peres had already informed Shamir that he is not certain he would be able to swing all Labour ministers behind the new economic programme. The sources say that the Likud would view Peres's performance with the Labour ministers on the budget issue as a touchstone of his and his party's willingness to live up to their obligations under the rotation agreement to cooperate with the prime minister.

The Histadrut is expected to oppose Nissim's demand for a wage freeze. The Histadrut seeks compensation for the wage erosion that has occurred over the last several years. The Histadrut also opposes the plan's aim to charge fees, or raise those already in effect, for education and health services.

Discontent in Labour is described as so extreme that a number of ministers are seeking to reject the entire plan out of hand at tonight's caucus.

Peres yesterday tried not to upset either side. Speaking to high school pupils in Tel Aviv, he said he favoured the proposed plan in principle, but with two reservations. He said the government could not adopt the plan alone but must make its decisions in concert with the Histadrut and the Manufacturers Association. He added that to ensure its success, the plan must be put into effect "very gradually."

Generally, however, Peres said the "principles guiding the plan seem acceptable. This was our intention when we worked out the first phase of the economic rehabilitation programme (in summer 1985). Our aim was to prepare the ground for the second phase, which is coming now. There is no doubt that a tax reform is necessary, as is a reform in money markets. All other things must be carefully and thoroughly examined. We have to see what can be implemented and we have to

(Continued on Back Page)



Elie Wiesel receives the Nobel Peace Prize from Nobel committee chairman Egil Aarvik in Oslo yesterday. With him is Wiesel's son. (See story, page 4.) (Reuters telephoto)

No smoking! in health facilities

Post Science and Health Reporter

Smoking will be banned in all hospitals, health-care facilities and Health Ministry offices — except for restricted areas like balconies or special rooms.

This was announced yesterday by Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino, who said that the health system must "serve as an example" to the public. "It is unthinkable," she continued, "that a person going to a health facility for treatment is exposed to cigarette smoke and the diseases caused by smoking." She added that she would not allow a doctor or nurse to treat a patient with a cigarette in his or her mouth.

She also sent a letter to the prime minister, asking that he prohibit smoking in all cabinet meetings, a practice instituted by former premier Begin which has lapsed.

(There are a number of heavy smokers in the cabinet, including Vice Premier Peres and Defence Minister Rabin.) Arbeli-Almosino said she would speak personally with members of her party who smoke to persuade them to give up the habit, at least during cabinet meetings.

It has long been forbidden to smoke in the Knesset plenum, so the minister saw no reason why the rule shouldn't apply in the cabinet.

The Ministerial Committee on Economics decided this week to ban smoking during its meetings.

Smoking in certain public places, including taxis, buses and Kupat Holim clinics, has been banned for over a year.

Sarid suffers heart attack

By JUDY SIEGEL
and DVORAH GETZLER

Yossi Sarid MK, of the Citizens Rights Movement, was reported to be out of danger and in stable condition at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem last night, after suffering a mild heart attack at the Knesset.

Sarid, 45, never lost consciousness but was in considerable pain when he was brought to the duty hospital. Sarid took 15 minutes after tabling a motion attacking theatre censorship. He had left the chamber and gone downstairs, stopping to chat with journalists in the press wing.

As he continued through the corridors, he suddenly felt unwell and

tried to reach his room to lie down. But he collapsed, and the Knesset doctor was called.

An intensive-care ambulance was summoned, and Sarid was given a nitroglycerine shot and an injection to relieve his chest pain before being taken to hospital.

His colleague, Shulamit Aloni, who suffered a heart attack last year said later, visibly shaken: "Ours is a party in which people take things to heart."

When news of Sarid's heart attack reached the Knesset chamber, Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz, who was replying to the motions on censorship, wished him a speedy and complete recovery.

Selling your car?



Hurry!

There are only a few hours left to place your classified ad for tomorrow's Luah Ma ariv. Just take your ad to any advertising agency, or to an office of Ma'ariv (or call 03-439439) and it will run in Hebrew in that paper. Hand it in early enough to make sure it reaches the office of Luah Ma'ariv before 5 p.m. today and your ad will also appear in English in The Jerusalem Post.

Beat that deadline!

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presents...

Bags of gifts,
gifts of bags

The Jerusalem Post
Hanukkah Toy Fund
HANDICRAFTS FAIR —

Over 50 artisans selling
thousands of utterly
unique crafts at
bargain prices in a
carnival atmosphere.
Come one, come all —

Monday, December 22,
5-10 p.m. at the
Ramada Renaissance Hotel,
Wolfson St., Jerusalem.

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	MIN.	MAX.	
10.12.86	C	F	C
AMSTERDAM	2	34	46
BRUSSELS	1	34	46
BIRMINGHAM	2	34	46
CHICAGO	2	34	46
COPENHAGEN	3	37	49
FRANKFURT	3	37	49
GENEVA	3	37	49
HONG KONG	14	27	81
JERUSALEM	13	25	77
LONDON	4	39	99
MADRID	1	30	86
MONTREAL	-1	28	82
NEW YORK	-1	28	82
OSLO	4	39	99
PARIS	3	37	49
RUHR-DOSSLE	3	37	49
SAPPALE	1	30	86
STOCKHOLM	3	37	49
TORONTO	2	34	46
VIENNA	3	37	49
ZURICH	1	30	86

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

swissair

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear; Rainfall in millimeters for 24 hours ending 8 p.m. yesterday: Jerusalem 6, Safed 1, Shomron 6, Tel Aviv 9, Ben-Gurion Airport 4, Gaza 24.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Min-Max
Jerusalem	76	9-13	14
Golan	80	8-12	13
Nabatieh	84	9-17	18
Safed	85	6-9	10
Haifa Port	90	10-16	17
Tiberias	68	10-19	19
Nazareth	64	9-15	15
Afula	64	6-18	22
Shomron	77	9-15	16
Tel Aviv	58	12-19	19
B-G Airport	76	12-18	19
Jericho	54	12-21	22
Gaza	75	12-19	19
Suez	61	9-18	19
Eilat	29	11-22	23

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The Governor-General of Barbados, Sir Hugh Waller, and his wife were received by President Chaim Herzog and his wife Aura at Beit Hanassi on Tuesday. The president also received the education minister of Venezuela, Dr. Luis Manuel Carbonell.

His Excellency the French Ambassador and Mme. Alain Pierrat and the French Cultural Counsellor, M. Claude Domenach, visited the Wizo-France Municipal Vocational Secondary School in Tel Aviv on Tuesday, where they were received by World Wizo President Raya Jaglom and World Wizo Schools' Department Chairman Dina Czernobilsky.

Zionist Executive Chairman Arye L. Dulzin, yesterday received in Jerusalem members of the Academic Exchange Programme Israel Study Tour, including Ohio State Senators William F. Bowen and William Malloy; university presidents Dr. Arthur E. Thomas, Central State University, Wilberforce; Dr. Douglas Covington, Alabama A & M University; and Dr. Robert W. Teater of Columbus, Ohio. The members expressed their interest in the successful rehabilitation programmes of the Jewish Agency's Youth Aliya and Project Renewal.

A cooperation agreement between Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science and the National Council for Science and Technology of Uruguay was signed this week in Montevideo, by Institute President Prof. Aryeh Devoretzky and Council President Manuel Berger. The signing ceremony took place in the presence of Uruguay's minister of education and culture, Dr. Adela Reta.

Prof. Arnold Heertje of the University of Amsterdam will speak on world-wide prospects of inflation and interest rates at the Rotary Club meeting at the Tel Aviv Hilton at 1:15 p.m. today.

U.S. Undersecretary of Health and Human Services Don Newman yesterday visited Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem and toured the Sharet Institute for Oncology, where he viewed a new high-powered linear accelerator.

The Jewish Theological Seminary of America awarded honorary doctorates in Jerusalem yesterday, to Deputy Prime Minister Yitzhak Navon, Judaic scholar Professor Ephraim Urbach and former Independent Liberal leader Moshe Kol.

Technion Professor Uri Shamir has been appointed the institute's vice president for research.

Cohn leaves hospital

TEL AVIV (Itim). - Retired Supreme Court Justice Haim Cohn was discharged yesterday from Meir Hospital in Kfar Sava. He was admitted on November 30 after suffering a heart attack.

Yoana Jabotinsky Youth Town
Be'er Yaacov
Inauguration ceremony of the

SOL TAUBENFELD
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE CENTER
and the
RALPH MOSTER WING

will take place on Sunday, December 14, 1986, at 3:00 p.m.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Censorship dominates Knesset's agenda

By DVORAH GETZLER

Cultural censorship in one form or another was prominent on the Knesset agenda yesterday. Education Minister Yitzhak Navon said he would recommend suspending school performances of a play on the Arab-Israeli conflict; Progressive List for Peace MK Matti Peled sought to limit film censorship to the question of suitability for the young; and Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz replied to a long list of motions for the agenda on the subject of theatre censorship.

And to cap it all, yesterday was International Human Rights Day: hence there were motions on that subject in general, and on human rights for Russian Jews in particular. Navon had been asked by the National Religious Party's Avner Shalki to consider stopping a play for schools in which the central characters were a mixed Jewish-Arab couple.

The minister was not, in fact, obliged to give his answer to the plenum, since Shalki was absent. But, said Navon, he wanted to so because of the public interest the play had aroused.

He said that while he welcomed the "humanizing" of the problem, the means used in the play - i.e. presenting the Arab-Israeli conflict through the experiences of a child of a mixed marriage - ran counter to the ministry's policy.

He was, therefore, recommending its removal from the repertoire of

the youth theatre. To face these issues, a great deal of maturity was needed, Navon said.

Both then and later in the discussion of theatre censorship, a number of members wanted to know what reaction there would have been in the Knesset had a play about a mixed Jewish and non-Jewish couple been presented abroad and removed for similar reasons. No answer on that point was forthcoming.

Peled's proposal to limit film censorship to the question of suitability for children was struck from the agenda on the grounds, adduced by Justice Avraham Shari, that it was merely a back-door method to smuggle in films hostile to the state.

Knesset roundup

It was the state that concerned most of those who spoke on civil rights. Several speakers wished the president of the association for Civil Rights in Israel, former High Court Justice Haim Cohn, a speedy recovery, and congratulated former attorney-general Yitzhak Zamir on his receipt this week of the association's Emil Grunzweig Prize. Shulamit Aloni (Citizens' Rights Movement), Yair Tzaban (Mapam), and David Libai (Labour) were all concerned that Israel had no civil

rights law, and has fallen behind most Western countries in this area.

Not so Gula Cohen. She suggests that Arabs who complained that their civil rights were being observed in the breach should follow the example of Russian Jews denied permission to emigrate to Israel, and give up their Israeli citizenship.

Minister Shari was far more confident about civil rights in Israel, which had a good record, he said. But Shari scored the media's practice of "dragging people into the mud" even before a charge sheet had been submitted.

Peretz had strong words for those who criticized the censor's stand on "The Last Secular Jew," and who called on Israel's theatres not to cooperate with the censor.

It was the permissiveness of Israeli society, he said, that had convinced him to retain theatre censorship, and the example of the play in question only strengthened his view.

The play was an abomination. It was anti-Semitic and permitting it to be shown here would undercut every argument Israel had for asking to have similar plays removed abroad.

But most of all, the country's youth must be protected from such vicious attacks on their heritage, attacks which led ultimately, the minister said, to the use of drugs and the violence that was so rife among the youth.

The Knesset will consider the matter of censorship further in committee, it was decided.

Released on bail until sentencing

Rappaport pleads guilty to attack on Shak'a

Ira Rappaport, a member of the Jewish underground who spent the last three years in the U.S. as a fugitive, was convicted yesterday of causing grievous bodily harm to former Nablus mayor Bassam Shak'a and of membership in a terror organization.

Rappaport pleaded guilty in the Jerusalem District Court as part of a plea-bargain arrangement. The prosecution agreed to his release on NIS 10,000 bail for 10 days until sentence is passed.

Rappaport joined the terror group in May 1980. On the night of June 1, 1980, he drove to Nablus along with Natan Nathanson and Moshe Zar and planted a bomb in Shak'a's car when Shak'a started the next morning, the bomb blew off both his legs.

Rappaport was in the U.S. as a Gush Emunim emissary when the

other members of the underground were arrested in April 1984. The police declared him a wanted man but never asked for his extradition. He returned to Israel earlier this week.

At the sentencing hearing, defence attorney Ya'acov Weinroth plans to present written testimony from American halachic authority Rabbi Moshe Tendler. Weinroth said yesterday that Tendler had forbidden Rappaport to return to Israel unless there was an improvement in the condition of his mother, who is ill with cancer.

Rappaport told newsmen this week that his mother's illness was now in remission.

Nathanson and Zar were both convicted and have served their sentences. Nathanson attended yesterday's court session. (Itim)

Released on bail until sentencing

TA museum to be given a Miro

MADRID (AP). - A painting by Spanish artist Joan Miro, which fetched \$350,000 at the first international art auction in Spain on Tuesday, is to be donated to the Tel Aviv museum of modern art, according to Sotheby's director, Edmund Peel.

A dealer who refused to divulge his name said that he had bought the 1965 oil on canvas 5 plus 2 equal 7, and 14 other works on behalf of an anonymous American who planned to donate them to the museum.

The sale of the 42 Miro works netted \$3.72 million which is to go towards establishing the Pilar and Joan Miro foundation in Majorca. All the pieces had belonged to Miro's widow, Pilar Juncosa.

Miro, whose work combines abstract art and surrealist fantasy, created the paintings sold Tuesday between 1938 and 1981.



Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin listens during a visit to military government headquarters in Ramallah yesterday as a Border Policeman speaks to local residents. (Feinblatt/Media)

SETTLERS

near Gaza. In the West Bank, the number of incidents dropped sharply, and the army did not intervene in demonstrations held at the Islamic College in Hebron and at the College de Freres in Bethlehem.

In Nazareth, meanwhile, there

were peaceful demonstrations against what the Rakh-run city called "the oppressive rule" in the territories. Itim reports. All high schools were closed and a sit-down strike by women continued into its second day.

Police warned city officials and Rakh activists not to demonstrate without permits.

2 killed on roads

A man was killed yesterday evening when the car he was driving struck a bridge on the Hadera-Afula highway, and his three passengers were seriously injured.

Earlier in the day a 50-year-old woman was hit by a jeep and killed when she crossed the road at Bilu junction outside Rehovot. The jeep driver was held for questioning. (Itim)

Mubarak returns cannon to France

PARIS (Reuter, AP). - President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt presented President Francois Mitterrand with a French cannon yesterday, which sank with the transport ship Patriote during Napoleon's 1798 expedition to Egypt.

Mubarak arrived yesterday for a four-day state visit keyed to efforts to reschedule some of Egypt's \$36 billion foreign debt.

Middle East problems will "obviously" also be discussed extensively, a foreign ministry spokesman said, but the financial issue will be the major topic of Mubarak's visit, his second in six months.

Egypt wants to reschedule some of its foreign debts, and has asked the International Monetary Fund for a standby credit of about one billion dollars.



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak delivers a speech on his arrival in Paris yesterday as French President Francois Mitterrand looks on. (Reuter telephoto)

In an interview in the Cairo newspaper *Al-Ahram* yesterday, Mitterrand promised to help ease some of Egypt's economic difficulties, but said Paris' main role should be played in the IMF and other international financial institutions.

The Champs Elysees and nearby streets were bedecked with huge Egyptian and French flags for the

first state visit by an Egyptian head of state since the overthrow of the Egyptian monarchy in 1952.

The two-ton cannon presented to Mitterrand was rescued from the sea bed by a Franco-Egyptian team of divers and will be put on show.

Mubarak is to leave Paris on Saturday for Stuttgart and Bucharest.

Hammer due to meet with Reform leaders

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Jerusalem Post Reporter Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer is due to meet with leaders of the Reform movement next week. The *Jerusalem Post* learned yesterday.

The meeting will include officials of both the World Union for Progressive Judaism and the Israel movement.

After Hammer had turned down an invitation to appear at the dedication ceremonies of the extended Hebrew Union College complex in Jerusalem, Reform leaders had assumed the minister was boycotting them. But they renewed their request for a meeting after hearing that Hammer met with board of governors members of the Jewish Theological Seminary (Conserva-

tive) this week.

A spokesman for the minister said the meeting was scheduled as a result of Hammer's desire to reduce enmity between Reform and Orthodox Jews and to bring all sections of the Jewish people together. The minister's responsibilities to Diaspora Jews could not be fulfilled by ignoring non-Orthodox religious movements, the spokesman added.

At the same time, the spokesman said, Hammer recognizes within Reform Judaism a growing desire to draw closer to Israel and Zionism and to participate in Israeli life. Hammer hopes that in effecting this participation, the Reform movement may be willing to compromise on issues pertaining to the unity of the Jewish people, the spokesman said.

Kennedy eulogizes Marchenko

By JONATHAN KARP

For The Jerusalem Post U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy joined Soviet Jewry activists last night in Jerusalem at a press conference called following the death of imprisoned Soviet dissident Anatoly Marchenko.

"A mighty tree has fallen in the woods and a bright star has fallen from the heavens," Kennedy said of Marchenko, 48, who died on Tuesday in Chistopol prison. The dissident writer had been convicted of anti-Soviet agitation in 1981 and sentenced to 10 years in the labour camp, to be followed by five years of internal exile.

Avital Sharansky and Ida Milgrom, Natan Sharansky's mother, participated in the press conference, which was sponsored by the Soviet Jewry Education and Information Centre. Sharansky, too, was imprisoned in Chistopol, and Yosef Begun, the prominent Prisoner of Zion, is currently being held there.

Earlier yesterday, Kennedy met at the U.S. consulate in West Jerusalem with six Palestinian leaders, including Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij and Gaza physician, Dr. Hatem Abu Ghazaleh. They briefed the senator on the recent events in the West Bank and urged a more active and "even-handed" U.S. policy toward the administered territories.

According to sources present at the hour-long discussion, Kennedy refused to give his opinion on the political situation in the territories. They said he had preferred to listen and get information.

Zamir gets award

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter The attorney-general must not defend a government action if he does not believe that action to be lawful, former attorney-general Prof. Yitzhak Zamir said last night.

Zamir, the recipient of the Emil Grunzweig Memorial Prize for Civil Rights, was speaking at the award ceremony at the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem.

He was not accepting the prize for himself, he said, but as the representative of all the attorney-generals who have served the state and have each in his own way contributed to the advancement of human rights.

Israel, Egypt begin Taba arbitration

GENEVA (Reuter). - Egypt and Israel yesterday formally set up the international arbitration tribunal to resolve their dispute over Taba.

Gunnar Lagergren, a Swedish judge who will preside over the tribunal, officially declared the talks open at a ceremony in the historic Alabama Room at Geneva's Town Hall, where the world's first arbitration court met in 1872.

Other international lawyers in the five-member panel are Dietrich Schindler of Switzerland and Pierre Bellet of France.

Israel and Egypt each have one member on the court - Hamed Soliman of Egypt and Ruth Lapidoth of Israel.

Each country has a team of about 15 experts, including map specialists, working on its case.

Boost in Israeli aid to Sri Lankan security

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP). - Israel has agreed to widen training of Sri Lankan security forces and expedite shipment of gunboats to this troubled island nation, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

The sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said the decisions grew out of Israeli President Chaim Herzog's visit to Colombo on November 20.

The two moves reportedly promised by Israel would aid the government in fighting a three-year insurgency by Tamil rebels.

The sources said Israel agreed to give frogman training to a group of Sri Lankan navy men.

To the
TAMMAN and GAON FAMILIES
The World Family of the
United Israel Appeal - Keren Hayesod
expresses its heartfelt condolences
on the passing of
JOSEPH ELI TAMMAN
whose life serves as a guide for their many good works.
Dr. Avraham Avi-hai
World Chairman
Keren Hayesod

To Mr. Leon Tamman,
Chairman of the Presidium of WOJAC,
The World Organization of Jews from
Arab Countries
Our sincerest condolences on the loss of your father
JOSEPH
The Executive Board of WOJAC

BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY
Ramat Gan
extends sincere condolences to the
Tamman and Gaon Families
on the death of
JOSEPH ELI TAMMAN
the father of the family

The World Wizo Executive expresses deep sorrow over the
passing of
Mr. MOSHE ZISMAN
and extends condolences to Luisa Zisman,
her children and her family.
World Wizo Executive

Palestinians leave some positions as Shi'ites lift siege

MAGHDOSHEH (Reuters). — Palestinians yesterday evacuated some strategic positions won from the Shi'ite Amal militia in this south Lebanese town, and Amal later broke a two month siege on Rashidiyeh, the Palestinian refugee camp near Tyre.

It was the biggest success so far for Iranian and Libyan efforts to arrange a truce after 10 weeks of Amal-Palestinian fighting in which at least 600 people have been killed and more than 1,150 wounded in and around refugee camps.

But it was unclear last night if the latest ceasefire plan and withdrawal would progress beyond its first phase, particularly while PLO chairman Yasser Arafat had not yet approved the plan.

In Maghdousheh, scores of Palestinians withdrew from five frontline positions and handed them over to a buffer force of the pro-Iranian Hizbullah (Party of God).

A handful of the village's Christian residents ventured from their shell-pocked houses to watch the handover, which was supervised by Iranian officials who have done much of the negotiating in past days. Shortly after the Maghdousheh

withdrawal, some 100 Amal fighters around Rashidiyeh watched as two vans with emergency supplies and six ambulances entered the refugee camp, breaking a two-month Amal siege, Reuter reporter Hala Jaber said.

Bulldozers had already removed huge sand barriers erected around the camp as shields from snipers.

In Beirut, Palestinian sources reported sporadic exchanges of rocket-propelled grenades at the camps of Shatila and Bourj al-Barajneh.

Arafat has so far rejected the latest cease-fire arranged through negotiations with pro-Syrian Palestinian factions that have been fighting with Arafat.

Yesterday's moves to implement the truce came after five days when Iranian and Libyan efforts were undermined by flare-ups of fighting and a day after Soviet Ambassador Vasily Kolotoussa said Moscow was adding its weight to peace efforts.

In Tunis, the PLO failed to get Arab guarantees for a cease-fire at a two-day emergency Arab League meeting which ended on Tuesday night.

Sandinista invaders quitting Honduras

TEGUCIGALPA (Reuters). — Sandinista troops who crossed into Honduras to fight U.S.-backed rebels are returning to Nicaragua following a weekend Honduran air raid on Sandinista positions, a government spokesman announced yesterday.

"Sandinista troops are leaving and the border tensions are beginning to wind down," acting Foreign Minister Guillermo Caceres Pineda said.

Caceres also said the departure of Nicaraguan Contra rebels along the border who are fighting Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government "would be positive because it would avoid border problems for us."

Diplomatic observers said the statement reflected Honduras' longstanding concern over the high concentration of Nicaraguan rebels in Honduran bases.

Discontent over the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) presence in Honduras has grown in the past two weeks since it was revealed that \$10m. to \$30m. in profits from a

highly controversial U.S. arms deal with Iran were diverted for rebel use.

Congressmen say the deal may have violated restrictions on U.S. aid to the Contras since Congress had not yet approved military aid for the rebels. Washington observers have said the scandal could doom future U.S. aid to the rebels from Congress.

Honduras has repeatedly told the Reagan administration it wants the 13,000 to 16,000 FDN troops to stay in Nicaragua, where they have scored few significant military victories since they began receiving CIA assistance in 1981.

Last week Honduran President Jose Azcona told new U.S. ambassador Everett Briggs that Honduras wanted rebel troops out of Honduras, a government official said.

Caceres said that in spite of the border clashes "relations with Nicaragua are not threatened" and added that the two nations would continue to have normal links.

Computer fails, newspaper hand-writes all articles

BRUSSELS (AP). — The daily *De Morgen* appeared on the news stands yesterday in a most unusual way.

Due to a computer failure, its journalists and editors hand-wrote all their articles filling the tabloid's 32 pages.

The paper which is suffering from serious financial problems and looking for fresh capital, wrote on the front page:

"If a potential new owner had checked out the paper yesterday, he — she would have seen high technology at its very best. Early in the morning the central computer conked out. But you know us. For you we go through fire and concrete walls. The pencils were quickly handed out, the fingers and scissors were sharpened."

Zambia deploys army to curb food riots

LUSAKA (AP). — Zambian troops and paramilitary police patrolled riot-torn cities yesterday after violent demonstrations against food price hikes claimed five lives, the Zambian premier announced.

Kebby Musokotwane told the National Assembly that the victims included four rioters and one policeman.

"There have been acts of lawlessness and general hooliganism," he said. "These activities have taken the form of damaging buildings belonging to the government...and private sector." He said army units were deployed in the northern copper region in the heart of the country to keep law and order.

Zambian newspaper reporters in the area said cities and towns were quiet after rioting and looting on Tuesday.

Residents of mining centres in the

region said armed soldiers were searching vehicles at roadblocks and checking identity papers.

Home Affairs Minister Cosmas Chibanda announced the closure of borders "because of the serious situation." Zambian reporters said it was the worst civil unrest since President Kenneth Kaunda led the former British colony of Northern Rhodesia to independence in 1964.

A reporter for the government newspaper *Zambia Mail* reported from Kitwe that he saw police open fire on looters stealing six Peugeot cars from a showroom. Several people were wounded, he said.

Zambia's economy is in its worst shape since independence. Foreign debts amount to over \$4 billion and debt service requirements drain more than 40 per cent of the government's export income, 90 per cent of which comes from copper sales.

Tougher censorship due in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG. — South Africa will impose sweeping new curbs today on news of political unrest and opposition to the government, the deputy minister for information said yesterday.

Stoffel van der Merwe told foreign correspondents the censorship would mean that news on sensitive issues such as unrest would have to be cleared by a cabinet minister, deputy minister or a designated spokesman.

The issues would cover "all sorts of resistance to the government," he said.

Van der Merwe told correspondents that South Africa was "going into times that will be trying for you and me also."

Restrictions on reporting have been in force since the government declared a nationwide state of

emergency last June and five foreign correspondents have since been ordered out of the country.

Van der Merwe said the new curbs would apply to reports of passive opposition such as black consumer boycotts as well as violence.

Meanwhile, black miners from rival tribes battled each other at a gold mine, leaving at least two dead and 12 wounded.

Gold Fields of South Africa, one of the nation's major mining firms, said in a statement that three more blacks were killed when the violence spread to neighbouring farms near Kloof gold mine after the initial fighting there on Tuesday night. Gold Fields said it was not clear whether the additional three victims were also miners.

(Reuters, AP)



The 1986 Nobel Prize winners pose yesterday in Stockholm before the award ceremony. From left, Gerd Binnig (Switzerland, physics), Yuan T. Lee (U.S., chemistry), James Buchanan (U.S., economics), Heinrich Rohrer (Switzerland, physics), Ernest Ruska (W. Germany, physics), John Polanyi (Canada, chemistry), Dudley Hersbach (U.S., chemistry). Front row, Stanley Cohen (U.S., medicine), Wole Soyinka (Nigeria, literature) and Rita Levi-Montalcini (U.S., medicine). (Reuters telephoto)

Saudi-Syrian pact

BEIRUT. — Syria and Saudi Arabia signed a bilateral agreement to fight terror, *La Revue de Liban* has reported. The pact was signed during the visit of the Saudi interior minister to Damascus.

Relative of Khomeini heir a murderer

NICOSIA (AP). — A relative of the chosen successor to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini confessed to murder, hoarding weapons and working for the Shah's secret police.

Mehdi Hashemi has admitted that the base for his activities was the office of the unwitting Hussein Ali Montazeri, Khomeini's hand-picked heir.

Paris students stage silent peaceful march

PARIS (Reuters). — Tens of thousands of students marched silently through Paris yesterday, paying homage to a colleague killed in demonstrations against planned higher education reform and to mark Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's withdrawal of the reforms.

Keynote of the demonstrations here and in other parts of France was "never again" to what the students saw as a threat to their rights and alleged police repression which stu-

dents say caused the death of 22-year-old Malik Ousseine and severe injuries to two other students.

Massive student protests against the reform plan last weekend began peacefully. But they ended in bloody clashes in the Latin Quarter between riot police and demonstrators in which Ousseine, a French student of Algerian origin, died after an alleged police beating and dozens of other students and police were injured.

European arms men swarm into Teheran

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — Arms dealers from all over Europe have reportedly been flying into Teheran during the past two weeks, keen to sell arms to the Khomeini regime now that American arms sales have been made public.

The dealers, quoted in yesterday's *Times*, felt that the U.S. admissions freed them of any obligation not to sell guns, ammunition and aircraft parts to Iran.

West Germany, Italy and Spain are said to be at the forefront of the anxious would-be suppliers, and agents for British computerized military equipment are also reported to have arrived in Teheran.

"Iranians need new equipment for their air force and for their tanks, and they are going to get it," the report quoted a West German arms dealer as saying.

According to the *Times*, there is a growing suspicion that Iran deliberately exposed the U.S. arms shipments, in the belief that once European weapons suppliers saw America violating its own arms embargo, they would agree to make their arms and ammunition available to Teheran.

According to *Jane's Defence Weekly*, Iran has only some 40 combat aircraft left in operation — giving Iraq a 12-1 air advantage.

The magazine reported yesterday that Iran had lost 54 aircraft to date in the Gulf war. It also said that Iraq

has recently made major gains in escalating the air war, "badly damaging Iran's economic lifeline, its oil export system, and other industrial centres."

Quoting exiled Iranian air force Colonel Behzad Moezi, who now lives in London, *Jane's* said that Iran now has only seven flyable F-14 Tomcats, none of which has operative radar. The F-5 force is estimated at 10 to 15, while there are said to be some 20 F-4 Phantoms still in operation.

Inadequate maintenance has caused the loss of numerous transport planes, while the tanker/transport force suffers 90 per cent unserviceability.

Iran reportedly received several Chinese-built F-6 aircraft via North Korea recently, but *Jane's* quotes Moezi as saying that "none of these aircraft has been seen in the air."

Iraq's air force, on the other hand, is reportedly going from strength to strength. While the two countries remain stalemated on the ground, "the Iraqis are showing infinitely more aggression in the air than ever before," according to analysts quoted by the magazine.

The Iraqi Air Force has an estimated strength of some 500 combat aircraft, plus 100 helicopter gunships — and this superiority has been further enhanced by recent Iranian defections. "At least three F-4 Phantom crews have landed in Iraq with their fighter-bombers since August," *Jane's* reported.

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'We have come from humiliation to exultation.'

Wiesel's fellow inmates look back at their ordeal

By ERNIE MEYER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

As Elie Wiesel received the Nobel peace Prize in Oslo yesterday, three of his fellow inmates from the Buchenwald concentration camp, who were liberated together with him on April 11, 1945, met in Jerusalem to exchange reminiscences.

The three — Rabbi Menashe Klein of Boro Park, New York; Abraham Paluch, a Jerusalem businessman; and Siggy Weiser, a retired TV repairman and recent immigrant from New York — gathered at the home of Rabbi Klein's daughter in Jerusalem's Romema quarter.

Also present was Judith Hemmendinger, the wife of the press attaché at the French consulate. As a young social worker in post-war Paris, she had headed an orphanage where many of the 400 young survivors were put up. Her book, *Children of Buchenwald*, describes the episode.

The gathering was sponsored by the Shvut Ami Centre for Soviet Jews.

Rabbi Klein, 62, a well-known yeshiva head, who has written ten books on halacha and more than 6,000

responsa, recalled the time he spent with Wiesel in Auschwitz, prior to their removal to Buchenwald. "I met Wiesel in the worst days of my life. We put on *tefillin* together — he the ones for the hand and I the ones for the head — and the SS beat us for that," he said.

In Paris we studied *gemara* together until each went our own way. I still advise Eliezer — I call him by his full name — on all religious matters."

Rabbi Klein's attitude towards the Holocaust is that "if we had been better, God would not have punished us. Because we are the chosen people, God expects more from us."

Looking back on the camp days he also said that "it was better to be with God inside, than with the bestial oppressors outside." Rabbi Klein recalled that later in Paris the French government wanted to issue all the youngsters Christian papers. He and two other survivors complained to the Chief Rabbi of Paris and the notion was abandoned.

Siggy Weiser said that with the presentation of the Nobel Peace Prize to Wiesel "we have come from humiliation to exultation."



Senator Edward Kennedy lays a wreath at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem yesterday, while his sister, Jean Smith, looks on. (Brian Hendler)

EUROPEAN CUP BASKETBALL

Milano: Familiar, but not friendly

By DON GOULD

Post Basketball Reporter
"Shalom" tripped off the lips of Tracer Milano's veteran centre Dino Meneghin as easily as *bon giorno* when he greeted his long-standing Israeli counterparts upon arriving in Israel.

He recalled earlier that he had been in Tel Aviv at least nine times that he could remember. Whether he was with Billy Milano, Simac, or Tracer, or whatever the sponsor's name, his team from Milan and Maccabi Tel Aviv have created a formidable European basketball rivalry for more than a decade.

Tonight's game at 8:30 at the Yad Elyahu Sports Palace is crucial for both of these long time rivals. Milano lost last week in France to Ortez and cannot afford to open the European finals competition with two losses. Maccabi, although not playing well, managed a victory last week against Zadar of Yugoslavia. For

Maccabi to make it to the final, it is imperative they win all their home games and probably at least two away.

The next part of Maccabi's schedule finds them hitting the road. No place to catch up.

Milano coach Dan Peterson feels that his team, bolstered by new additions Bob MacAdoo and Ken Barlow, are just now coming into form. MacAdoo, the former NBA all-star, admitted that there has been a period of adjustment. He feels he is ready now. Veteran that he is, he still leads his team in scoring while getting used to European rules and playing conditions.

Barlow, a recent Notre Dame graduate, has been learning European basketball at a rapid rate, and the two of them combined with Dino Meneghin, will present a formidable front wall for a fit and ready Maccabi Tel Aviv to face.

Starting players tonight

Tracer Milano
Mike D'Antonio
Roberto Premier
Dino Meneghin
Ken Barlow
Bob MacAdoo

Maccabi Tel Aviv
Motti Aroesti
Mickey Berkowitz
Lee Johnson
Kevin Magee
Howard Lasso

SOCCER

For Betar Netanya, things couldn't be much worse

Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Betar Netanya's run of bad luck continues. The team that made it from the third division to the National League in successive seasons, have now received the news that their veteran striker Israel Vogel, at 38 the oldest player in the National League, is retiring from football.

He would have been out of place anyway at the team's training this week, as only youth players turned

up. The total compliment of first team players absented themselves from training because they have not been paid for several weeks, and the management of the club has no idea where to find the money to pay them.

More depressing still, Betar Netanya flounder at the bottom of the first division table with a mere four points to show from 11 games — despite employing three different coaches since the start of the season.

NBA

Magic making the shots

NEW YORK (AP). — More often than any other time in his career, Magic Johnson is passing up passes and taking more shots.

Johnson, a three-time NBA assist champion, has never led the Los Angeles Lakers in scoring for a season, but this year he is averaging a point per game more than 39-year-old Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

"We wanted him to shoot more in order to take more of the load off Kareem," Lakers coach Pat Riley said after Johnson scored 22 points in Los Angeles's 113-87 rout of the New York Knicks Tuesday night.

Johnson, averaging 20.8 points per game, almost three above his average for seven previous NBA seasons, scored 11 in the third period, and eight in the final 2:32 as the Lakers broke away from the Knicks.

"Everybody has been coming together as a unit," Johnson said. "We're playing good ball, passing it around."

The Knicks, who got as close as when points in the fourth period before the Lakers pulled away, were led by Gerald Wilkins with 22 points and Patrick Ewing with 20 points and 15 rebounds.

Elsewhere, it was the Bulls 106, Nuggets 100 (Chicago's Michael Jordan reached 40 points for the seventh game in a row); Trail Blazers 128, Spurs 104; Hawks 122, Cavaliers 98; Suns 109, Warriors 94; and Kings 128, Nets 107.

Marathon crooks

NEW YORK (AP). — New York marathon officials reportedly have disqualified 24 runners for cheating.

The *New York Times* reported that race director Fred Lebow said the disqualified runners, including three of the top 100 finishers in the men's division, did not pass video checkpoints.

The video checkpoints were installed as a result of a 1979 incident in which American Rosie Ruiz finished 24th, but was disqualified for taking the subway during the race.

The disqualifications of American John Bell, who finished 69th overall, Stephen King of France, who finished 32nd, and American Warren Stelling, who came in 42nd, marked the first time that any men in the top 100 had been found guilty of cheating.

NHL

BLOOMINGTON, Minnesota (AP). — Craig MacTavish scored a shorthanded, breakaway goal 53 seconds into the third period Tuesday night, lifting the Edmonton Oilers to a 3-2 NHL victory over the Minnesota North Stars.

UNIONDALE, New York. — Luc Robitaille, the NHL's leading rookie goal-scorer, had three goals, and a fellow rookie Jimmy Carson added two as the Los Angeles Kings routed past the New York Islanders 7-2 for their fifth consecutive victory.

Elsewhere, it was the Sabres 5, Red Wings 3; Blues 4, Nordiques 1; Flyers 6, Canucks 3; and Capitals 4, Devils 2.

SPORTOTO

TEL AVIV. — Fifty-five football pool players got all 14 results right on last week's Sportoto coupon in a relatively easy week with few surprise results, and will each win NIS 9,000.

Thirteen results were worth NIS 100 only, and those who reached 12 right will get richer by NIS 5.50. Eleven and ten results drew a blank and will get no dividend.

Sportoto announced a minimum total payout for this week's games of NIS 1.5 million.

TIPS	Single	Perma
Mac. Yavne v Mac. FT	1	1X
B. Yotvata v Hap. TT	1	1X
Mac. Haifa v Mac. Netanya	1	1X
Betar J'na v Mac. TA	1	1X
Silberman v Hap. TA	1	1X
Betor TA v Hap. E. Sava	1	1X
Betor Netanya v Beersheva	1	1X
Hap. Lod v Mac. Jaffa	1	1X
Betor Netanya v Marmorek	1	1X
Dikman v Betor Be'er	1	1X
Yotvata v Haifa	1	1X
Bet Shimon v R. Amidar	1	1X
Hap. R. Gan v Hap. J'na	1	1X
Hap. Haifa v Hap. Haifa	1	1X

SCOREBOARD

SOCCER. — Welsh soccer club Caerwys Town upset English Third Division side York City 2-1 to gain the third round of the F.A. (Football Association) Cup. But there was no joy for Chelsea, another giant-killer from outside the 92-strong Football League. Coopers of once-famous Wolverhampton Wanderers, Chelsea were crushed 5-0 by Fourth Division Preston North End. Cardiff beat Brentford 2-0, and Bristol City beat Bath 3-0.

Anti-Israel propagandist launches 'Palestinian' tours to Israel

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — A controversial British tour operator, the Jerusalem and Peace Service, sent its first party to Israel Tuesday, on a programme intended to provide tourists "with the opportunity to learn at first hand about Palestinian society."

The tour company is run by Uri Davis, an Israeli with a doctorate in anthropology who has taught and researched Palestinian studies at three British universities.

(Davis, one-time member of the radical Matzpen movement, is a well-known anti-Israeli propagandist. He fought against the expropriation of Arab lands in Galilee for Carmel in the early '80s, evaded army draft, and headed a list in the 1969 Jerusalem municipal elections calling for a redhibition of the city under two autonomous administrations. In September, 1982 he was one of the organizers of an international inquiry, held in Oslo, into alleged Israeli "violations of international law" during the Lebanon War.)

Davis told *The Jerusalem Post* that tourism to Israel had been geared in the past "mainly to the Israeli aspect of life in Israel. We seek to promote a better understanding of the Palestinian aspect of life."

Several Jewish community leaders, who preferred not to be identified, told *The Post* that they were "deeply concerned" at the prospect of a man with Davis's reputation organizing tours to Israel. But Davis claimed that his personal politics had no bearing whatsoever on the tours his company was organizing. "The company does not necessarily represent the political viewpoints of any of those working for it," he said.

The current tour group, Davis added, comprised 18 members of British universities, who already had their own ideas and their own agenda. "They came to us for help in the organization of the tour, and to see if we could fill out their itinerary."

The Jerusalem and Peace Service began operating last summer, when a pilot tour party — including journalists from the British national press — visited Israel in July.

That tour was described by *The Guardian's* Ian Williams in a travel page article which is currently the subject of a complaint to the Press Council.

The complainant, Brian Gordon, told *The Post* that his objection lay in the newspaper's placing of an overtly political article in the travel section, rather than on an opinion page.

Williams recommended that visitors to Israel "stray from the paths of official righteousness," since

among other reasons, "the Israeli government tourist organization doesn't mention the Palestinians..."

Davis declined to give details of the group's itinerary, but last year's pilot tour took in the "empty church and shattered houses of the Arab village of Bir'im" and the Beduin squatter camp near Beersheba's Omer suburb with its "smell of failure," to quote from Williams's article.

"We are simply worried that Davis and his Peace Service will not be presenting a true picture of Israel," said one community official.

"In fairness to him, we don't know exactly what he's going to do. If he presents a balanced view of Israel, fine. But if he takes his groups to meet with the extremists from both sides, it's not going to be fair and balanced," he said.

According to a list of scheduled tour dates released by Davis in the summer, three tour groups were to have visited Israel by now. Although there have been rumours of groups visiting locations such as Kibbutz Megiddo, Davis insists that previous tours did not take place, because of insufficient demand. His next party is scheduled to leave on December 23, he said, with further tours lined up at the end of the month and in February.

Over 200 Golan gazelles killed in month of hunting

By ANDY COURT

Hunters have already killed more than 200 gazelles in the Golan Heights as the first gazelle-hunting season in the past 31 years enters its second month. Nature Reserve Authority officials say.

The NRA and officials from the Society for the Protection of Nature supported a gazelle-hunting season this year as a way of reducing the number problem of gazelles on the heights. The 4,000-strong gazelle population there has been damaging crops and has itself been damaged by hoof and mouth disease, maintains Eliezer Frankenberg, of the NRA. Reducing the gazelle population by one-third, should reduce both the damage done to crops and the scope of disease, he said.

"It's clear that reducing the population by a third won't hurt the herd from a biological standpoint,"

Frankenberg said. "We are conducting research all the time on the number remaining, and the moment the population goes down to the level we want we'll stop the hunting."

Gazelle hunts have been held one day a week since the beginning of November and will continue until the end of May. Only 50 hunters are permitted to hunt at any one time, and each hunter is allowed to kill only one gazelle.

All gazelles killed are examined for disease and are used for research purposes. The hunting will be interrupted in late January while rangers take a census of the population.

Gazelle hunting has not been permitted in Israel since 1955, Frankenberg said. Last year, however, NRA workers killed about 1,000 of them in an attempt to decrease the population.

Argentinian writer who fled Nazi threats: 'I am not an emigre'



Isidoro Blaistein after his arrival in Israel. (AFP)

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN

Argentine Nazis recently threatened to kill Isidoro Blaistein, one of that country's leading short story writers. The interior minister provided him with a bodyguard around the clock. But Blaistein, 53, decided to leave the country, and he arrived in Jerusalem last week via Spain.

These are the bare facts. At our interview in his hotel he showed me five or six Buenos Aires newspapers with stories of his departure or "flight." An Argentine radio station has interviewed him on the telephone. Also on the telephone he heard a recording of messages of support and solidarity from almost 100 Argentine writers.

"I am not a refugee, not an emigre," Blaistein said more than once during our conversation. He has every intention of returning to his home in Argentina, which is now guarded by a policeman day and night.

Just when he plans to go back proved to be a more difficult question. Blaistein changed his answer in mid-interview, saying that his first response might be misunderstood. "I'll return when I'm ready," he says. He has begun to write a book here.

He had feared for his life. He received phone calls threatening him

And then he recalled the death of his brother in Buenos Aires in 1945 when Nazis fired at a crowd celebrating the end of the war. "I still remember the newspaper headline: 'Enrique Blaistein killed by Nazis on Peace Day.' " Enrique, only 16, was already a professional actor.

His very departure has focused attention there on the Nazi danger, and he hopes that the steps the government takes against the Nazi groups will make a bodyguard superfluous when he returns. "In order to write well, a writer needs freedom, even freedom to walk the street unguarded."

Blaistein shows me the December 1 issue of the newspaper *Crónica*, containing a report that the government has revoked the franking privilege of a Nazi magazine, *Cobido*.

He expresses his admiration for President Raul Alfonsín. "He is a statesman in the order of Ben-Gurion and De Gaulle." He gives special praise to the interior minister, Dr. Antonio Troccoli. "In general, this is an exceptional gov-

ernment composed of decent men."

But it is anathema to the Nazis, who paint swastikas on kiosks walls, together with slogans about the "dictatorial powers of the Jews."

Because Jews occupy some important government posts, and because a Jew heads the Radical bloc of deputies, one of the Nazi's slogans is: 'We'll finish off the Radical Synagogue!'

Blaistein is the most prominent Jewish writer in the country. He has published 10 books of short stories, one of which won the National Prize for Literature in 1983. In English translation, it was published by Penguin under the title, *Dark Arrows: Chronicles of Revenge*.

While he is not a Zionist, Blaistein said, he was filled with emotion when he visited Israel three years ago. And he has the greatest respect for what Israel has accomplished.

"I am not a ghetto Jew, a type that abounds in Argentina," he said. "They think a Jew must not be too conspicuous in society, must not be a public official, lest the non-Jews envy him. When my life was threatened, they advised me not to report it to the police and assured me that nothing would happen to me."

(Next Monday, December 15, he will lecture at Beit Hefusoth on "The Jewish Writer in Latin America.")

Shootout may have ended careers of top bank robbers

By YORAM GAZIT

TEL AVIV. — This week's dramatic dusk shootout in Tel Aviv between police and bank robbers may have marked the end of the criminal careers of Israel's own "Butch Cassidy and Sundance Kid."

The two men, who now lie under police guard, in Ichilov Hospital not far from the police officer they had shot in the chest, have committed over a dozen brazen heists between them.

According to police sources, Asher Messer, 43, and Haim Hadi, 41, had their heyday in the early 70s, when they belonged to separate gangs of robbers who haunted the Dan region.

They met in prison after Hadi was sentenced in 1971 for 15 years and Messer was sentenced in 1974 for 12 years, both for armed robbery.

Following their release from prison in 1985, the robbery rate in the Dan region began to soar.

Police sources told *The Jerusalem Post* that Messer, Hadi and a third suspect in the Sunday's evening robbery, Meir Sultan, are being interrogated in connection with the 15 diamond polishing plants robberies committed during 1985.

Veteran policemen who knew Messer and Hadi from the early 70s were surprised to find that the veteran criminals had apparently returned to their old line of work.

A former policeman who participated in the arrest of Messer in 1974 told *The Post* following Messer's latest arrest: "It's just hard to believe; this you could call true love for the profession."

When Messer was caught 12 years ago, the detective recalled, after a lengthy period of surveillance, the police learned that he and his gang had robbed Bank Hapoalim branches in Ramat Gan, Tel Aviv and Hod Hasharon, as well as another bank in Even Yehuda and a Matzot Yisrael factory in Petah Tikva.

Twelve years later, after being released a year early for good behaviour, Messer was arrested again. But this time he fought police with an Uzi submachine gun, wounding a police officer, and nearly losing his own life in the battle.

His partner in the Sunday evening shootout, Hadi, was the first one to surrender after being shot in the leg.

Hadi was a member of another gang which operated in the early 70s, robbing half a dozen banks before he was arrested on Palmahim beach following an attack on a branch in Rishon LeZion.

A police source told *The Post* that the two can now expect to get at least 20 years in prison for attempted murder, armed robbery and illegal possession of weapons.

In very deep sorrow, we announce the death of our dear

MOSHE ZISMAN

Caracas, Venezuela

who has died at the age of 73.

His body will be brought for burial in Jerusalem and the funeral will take place tomorrow, Friday, December 12, 1986, at 11 a.m. at Givat Shaul cemetery, Jerusalem.

We shall meet at the entrance to Givat Shaul cemetery.

The Mourners:

Wife: Luisa

Son and daughter-in-law: Dr. Elias and Adela Zisman

Daughter and son-in-law: Annabella and Dr. Moshe Attias

Sisters:

Enia Zisman-Sendler

Nucha Zisman-Bronstein

Aidale Zisman-Rubinstein

Grandchildren and all the family

in Israel and abroad

To
MIKE AND HIS FAMILY
our sincerest condolences on the death of

HANNA BARGTEIL

The children and staff
of the Anna Frank Haven
Kibbutz Sasa

There will be a memorial meeting and
consecration of the tombstone of

FAITH GERON ז"ל

on Friday, December 12, 1986 at 10:00 a.m.
at the Herzliya cemetery.

The Geron Family

Unsung heroes of the 'illegal' aliya

THE SEARCH for the remaining 100 of the 250 North American volunteer sailors—the unsung heroes of Aliya Bet—has run into a snag. And if they don't turn up soon, they will miss the opportunity of having their names recorded in a little niche in Israeli history—which still has to be written.

These were the men "who went down to the sea in a handful of rickety tubs to run the British naval blockade to bring boatloads of so-called 'illegal' refugees from Europe to 'Palestine' in the aftermath of World War II," says Murray Greenfield, of Tel Aviv. He is planning a world reunion on the 40th anniversary of their exploits this June, 1987, in Israel, with the cooperation of the Israeli Navy. The sailors will meet each other and some refugees they helped to bring over. They all will undoubtedly indulge in the Israeli equivalent of "auld lang syne."

A few refugees will probably thank the North Americans for the first time, for 40 years ago they were two worlds apart—if of the same religion. The refugees came from a world in which they had been starved, frozen, overworked and beaten; the North Americans from a world in which they were over-fed, warm and pampered.

(These sailors later were to become part of a group called Mahal, or Volunteers from Abroad—which eventually grew to number 5,000 persons. Some 120 fell in battle.)

GREENFIELD'S interest is a bit personal but mainly historical. The personal bit stems from winding up his "Aliya Bet rescue days" behind barbed wire for four months in a British camp in Cyprus. They were "not exactly the happiest days of my life, but they were certainly interesting. Spending even one day seeing and talking to these survivors of the Hitlerian death camps, being guarded by British who had fought Hitler, but who were now your enemies, teaches you more about the vagaries of life and man's inhumanity to man than spending a couple of years poring over books in a university library."

The historical aspects—getting the

records straight—is much more important. "How many Israelis today know the role these American—volunteers played in Aliya Bet? It would take the literary ability of a Hemingway to capture the essence of that adventure. But we never had a Hemingway. All we hope today is that we can collect and collate enough information so that we don't lose our right to be a fat footnote in the history of Aliya Bet. And we have hopes that one day we might become the heroes of a couple of historical romances."

"Those events provide sufficient raw material. Why did these 250 men—especially the half a dozen non-Jews, both Catholics and Protestants—decide to volunteer in the first place? Why did 50 to 60 (the exact number is not certain) decide to settle in Israel. And why did the others decide to return home? Were they disappointed with Israel? Or had the spirit of adventure burned out? Of course, some 35 to 40 were deported; some 50 to 60 wound up in the Cyprus camp for many long months; some were shipped to the Aitit Detention Camp."

And there are a lot of personal stories to be recorded: the volunteer who was shot dead by a British boarding party; another four who fell in the War of Independence; and the volunteer, who, tossed into the camp in Cyprus, fell in love with a refugee girl whom he married and took back to the U.S. with him.

And then there was the American who dived overboard and swam ashore as his boat was being escorted into Haifa Port. Safe? Not quite, for he was arrested on shore by the British. But he owned brother who was legally in the country as a student at the Technion.

His captors asked members of the Technion staff to come down and make a positive identification. And they did make such an identification, and an honest one too—for even in those days, the teaching staff never looked closely at their students, and he looked enough like his brother to be identified.

"There are dozen of episodes like this; and every day another one

Macabee Dean

comes to light, as another volunteer tells his story."

WHAT IS NOT coming to light are the names and addresses of some 100 volunteers (of the total 250) who seem to have vanished off the face of the earth. But 156 "Aliya Betniks,"



as they call themselves, have been located.

Even finding them was like solving a complicated jigsaw puzzle. For most of the volunteers met each other for the first time when they joined the ships; some kept in contact with each other after the "adventure was over"—and it ended after the Royal Navy captured all 11 boats and they were tied up to the pier in Haifa Port.

Finding them began, of course, with the 50 plus who settled down in this country, married, raised families, and became "Israelis." (Many who settled here had not been "Zionists" when they joined the crews, but simply possessed an adventurous streak. They never expected "Utopia" here—and they were never disappointed like some of the deeply indoctrinated "Zionists" who had been fed, and swallowed, tall tales—and who developed a thousand heart-rending excuses to explain their desertion.)

Some had kept in contact with their former shipmates; and based on information they supplied, a word-of-mouth telephone campaign started.

But some had died in the past 40 years, others had changed their residences; and still others were living abroad. Some had changed their names (a few had come on assumed names out of fear of losing their American citizenship).

A few even might have settled or retired to Israel in a second wave, and there were those who had severed all connection with the past.



Although there must have been many discussions and many more arguments in the Jewish Agency Executive before a decision was taken to enlist American volunteers and to buy as many ships as possible to bring the immigrants from various ports in Europe to Israel, the first document which Greenfield has is a most innocuous letter. It is dated January 31, 1946, and was sent by Eliezer Kaplan, then Jewish Agency treasurer, later Israel's first finance minister, to Dewey Stone, a prominent and active Zionist of Boston. An initial \$400,000 (later the sum was increased to \$750,000) was being sent to Stone to "invest as he saw fit."

This meant setting up an organization in the U.S. to buy the ships. And then, legend has it, that one of the period's famous mix-ups happened. The American organization telephoned to Israel, asking that a man familiar with "ships" be sent over to help. The phone connection was bad—and moreover, most Israelis even today cannot distinguish between a short and long "e."

A "ship" man was understood to be a sheep man; and a Kibbutz Kfar

Shol sheep-herder, Danny Shind, who had only the vaguest idea of marine affairs, was sent. But he was adaptable and not only learned the trade fast, but fell in love with the sea, and went on to rise to a top position in Zim.

Most ships available were old, small coastal or inland river vessels, all under 800 tons, about to be scrapped. "Some seemed to be held together with bailing wire and chewing gum." Gradually 11 were acquired, refitted and renamed.

The Tikva was the former Trade Winds (which was the former Gresham), the President Warfield became the Exodus, and so on. (The Exodus earned a place in history when its 4,500 refugee passengers were deported by the British to Germany, and by going up in flames—its superstructure was of wood, and a welder's spark set it afire—when it was being remodeled much later in Haifa Port to serve as a floating museum.)

Then the search began for crews. Merchant marine hiring agencies were contacted, as well as the various Zionist organizations. The men were promised no wages, but pocket money and a priceless chance to go down in history. ("And damn it, history will give us our due.")

Most volunteers were in the 20 to 30 age bracket (the youngest was 17—"I think he ran away from home"—the oldest in his 50s). Only about 25 per cent had experience manning ships, but about 85 per cent had served in the armed forces in World War II, some in combat, so they were at least used to discipline and rough conditions.

Crews were formed, and each crew was joined by three members of the Palyan (the seagoing arm of the Palmach). "We called them the shoo-shoo boys," Greenfield recalls, "which was our secret word for shush, shush. For every time we started discussing our plans, they would say 'shush-shush' to shut us up."

ALL THE ships were eventually caught by the British Navy. But before this happened, the North American volunteers managed to bring to this country about 40,000 refugees (about 40 per cent of all



Members of the Tikva crew detained by the British in Cyprus.

illegal immigrants who reached Israel during those years).

What did Greenfield, and the others he has contacted, think then about Britain's policy of not opening the gates of Israel to the refugees? About the British soldiers who boarded the ships, turned them around, and deported death camp refugees who were often in sight of their new home, their promised land?

He breaks his answer into parts. "British Intelligence made a mockery out of the Englishman's reputation for fair play. They spread stories in the U.S. and Canada that we volunteers were a bunch of Communists helping pro-Communist forces to infiltrate into this country. Now, if they had any intelligence at all, they knew this was nonsense. But when we finished our job and went home, the FBI hauled most of us in for questioning as if we were really Communists. As far as I know, they drew blanks in

every case.

"As for the British soldiers and sailors, well, at first we thought they were nasty bastards—and obeying orders was no excuse for their actions, even though the overwhelming majority of us had served in the armed forces and had been thoroughly indoctrinated with the idea that orders were to be obeyed under all conditions. But the real war was over, and they were making war on the homeless, the sick, the despairing."

Having served in the armed forces ourselves, however, also made us mellow our outlook even at that time, for we had seen how soldiers from other countries had acted in similar circumstances. So we decided that under the circumstances they were probably the most decent nasty bastards in any of the armed forces in the world. Of course, the best of the British soldiers were the Irish. And as soon as we heard an Irish brogue, we knew we had an ally."

Stagnant

MUSIC REVIEWS



A phlegmatic Vovka Ashkenazy.

PIANO RECITAL BY VOVKA ASHKENAZY (Belt Yed Lashana, Tel Aviv, December 8). Beethoven: Sonata No. 23, Op. 57, "Appassionata"; Chopin: Ballade No. 3, Op. 37; Sonata No. 3, Op. 38.

IN THE FIRST and second movements of the Appassionata Vovka Ashkenazy showed almost no involvement whatsoever. It all sounded like a prima vista reading to get acquainted with the material.

Ashkenazy never went beyond playing the right notes. There was no evidence of any interpretative approach. His lack of interest in the second movement, the variations, produced a monotonous and almost completely meaningless reading. There was a slight improvement in the last movement of the sonata, creating the impression that he had finally been roused to action.

This short-lived impression, however, was dissipated completely in the Chopin Ballade, which lacked even the most rudimentary characteristics of Chopin's music: no expressiveness, no sensitivity to the composer's nuances in melody,

rhythm and tempo. Ashkenazy's playing was astonishingly phlegmatic and stagnant, lacking movement, development and climaxes.

A few bright moments in the Chopin sonata failed to bring about any real transformation. Ashkenazy simply did not know how to handle the music meaningfully. He slid with indifference over all the important points of the text, creating a feeling of gaping emptiness. There was, in fact, one mitigating factor. A piano like the one on which he was supposed to perform, should not have been imposed upon anybody.

THE ISRAELI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA—Avered led conducting with Moshé Shamiel, soprano; Sigrid Kessler, mezzo-soprano; Christoph Homberger, tenor; Coed, bass, the Camerata Singers and the Choral Ensemble (Mazda Auditorium, Tel Aviv, December 9). Mozart: Kyrie in D minor K.341 ("Mozart"); Louis Sabelle: Cantata Hebrew (the soloists, choir and orchestra); Mendelssohn: No. 115, Op. 51 (the soloists, choir and orchestra); Beethoven: Mass in C major, Op. 86 (for soloists, choir and orchestra).

IN ITS first part, this concert contained three pieces of innocent charm which though not providing any excitement, undoubtedly widened the repertoire and made us better acquainted with seldom heard rarities. Cantata Hebrew was probably commissioned by a Jewish notable living in the south of France from a local gentle composer, Louis

Saladin (late 17th century), for the ceremony of his son's circumcision. The text is in Hebrew, the music, however, follows the conventions of the prevailing baroque style. Musically the work is not of any great value but from the point of view of Jewish musicology it is highly interesting. The undemanding performance was nicely fashioned as were also the performances of the two other works, Mozart's Kyrie and Mendelssohn's Psalm 115. The combined choir sounded well, diction was good and it instilled each one of the pieces with the correct stylistic features.

The second part of the concert, Beethoven's mass, introduced us to much more serious music. Balance between orchestra and choir was excellent and all four soloists contributed their share to the success. Two of the soloists, tenor Christoph Homberger and mezzo-soprano Sigrid Kessler caught our attention in particular. Homberger possesses a most melodious timbre but he is no less capable of dramatic gestures. Sigrid Kessler's deeply moving vocal expressiveness created an outgoing and telling response to the text and Beethoven's music. Our own Moshé Shamiel seems to have progressed considerably but the nasal undertone in her voice is still an irritating distraction.

BENJAMIN BAR-AM

HAIFA CHAMBER MUSIC Society, Subscription Concert No. 2—Ora Shiran, violin; Gad Levor, viola; Emanuel Graber, cello; Orli Zaidler, double bass; Eli Heller, double bass; Moshe Wiesenberg, piano (Haifa, Beth Herzfeld, December 16).

Beethoven: Trio (Soprano) in D major for Violin, Viola and Cello, Op. 8; Elmsford: Quartet for Clarinet, Violin, Cello and Piano (SBS); Schubert: Quintet in A major for Piano, Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass, Op. 114 "The Trout".

THE performers in this ad hoc ensemble are instrumentalists of the Israel Chamber Orchestra. Menahem Wiesenberg is also a jazz pianist and he has also accompanied singers such as Hava Albenstein.

The varied programme opened with an enjoyable rendition of an early Beethoven work, reminiscent of his Serenade for Flute, Violin and Cello, Op. 25. The playing was polished, although Ora Shiran's tone sounded somewhat strained occasionally.

Eli Heifetz and Wiesenberg brought variety to the melodious Hindemith composition. While retaining their solo identities in the concertante parts, the musicians showed good teamwork and a harmonious interpretative approach, earning them warm applause from the audience.

The second part of the evening featured the familiar Schubert Quintet, variations on Schubert's song of the same name composed at the request of a friend. The rendition was charming and marked by smooth performance, sound technique and good musical phrasing. But overall the music lacked a rich, sonorous tone, romantic conviction and full-scaled dynamics.

As in the Hindemith, pianist Wiesenberg performed with clarity and competence.

All said, it was an evening of pleasing and refined chamber music. ESTHER REUTER

A real literary life

THERE AND THEN

SRAYA SHAPIRO

"OTTO SONNE? But I knew him! He lectured on Hebrew literature at the Pedagogium, the teachers training college established by Rabbi Peretz Chajes in Vienna." Yehuda Eren—Erenkrantz in those days—was referring to the late 1920s when he came to Vienna to try his luck as an actor in this metropolis of the arts, which still basked in the glory of Franz-Josef's golden age of Jewish involvement in German culture.

Eren hailed from Czernowitz, on the eastern outskirts of the Austro-Hungarian empire, and was one of eleven children of a respectable Jewish family. The town changed hands twice during the First World War, and then the Romanians came, and Czernowitz became Cernauti. German, the vernacular of the Jews, was replaced in the schools by Romanian. "We hardly used Yiddish in our family," Eren says.

One day, the famous Yiddish theatre, the Vilner Troupe, arrived in town. "I applied for a supporting part. We were far from rich, and I had only one pair of trousers to wear. I had to kneel during the audition, and as I did so, my trousers split in the leg. I carried on, however, and was accepted. My parents were not too happy."

But there was worse to come. "I was barely sixteen and a half, when the Vilners asked me to join them on their tour of Romania. The Romanian government had magnanimously put a railway carriage at their disposal, which doubled as sleeping

quarters. The legendary Buloff was the star of the Vilners at the time, and he was intrigued, though not convinced, by my ideas on Palestine and the Hebrew language—I belonged to Hashomer HaTza'ir. "We have a duty to our people here," Buloff used to say. "Jews speak Yiddish." They may have, but they did not flock to the performances of the Vilner Troupe. "Quite often we had to wait on a side track of the local station until our administrator found money for us to continue the tour, as theatre receipts had not met our expectations."

A BONUS his elder brother received at work enabled the young actor to travel to his dream city of Vienna, a course common to many penniless students in search of learning and, perhaps, glory. Life in student residences was uncomfortable but cheap. "Protektzia," the chance of an introduction, was the hope. "The girl friend of an acquaintance knew the sister of a governess in the employ of a famous man" who could be asked to intervene. Eren was introduced to Richard Beer Hoffmann, and advised to concentrate on stage reading rather than attempt a theatrical career. He thus became Yehuda Erenkrantz, an outstanding reader of prose and poetry in Yiddish and Hebrew. "If I am inclined

to singings it is because I fell under the influence of the great Alexander Moissi. I saw him from the cheapest theatre seats. He was fabulous."

My question about Sonne was prompted by the excerpts from Elias Canetti's autobiography which recently appeared in the New Yorker magazine. The Nobel Prize laureate recalls his encounter, in a Viennese cafe, with a strange, rather introverted person who seemed to know everything about European letters and was personally acquainted with the great names in German literature of the time, particularly with Musil. Canetti frankly admits Sonne's influence, but adds that Sonne disappeared when the regime changed, and was rumoured to have gone to Jerusalem. A noted critic, reviewing Canetti's book, observed that Sonne might not have existed at all because there was no trace of him in the literary annals of the age.

But he was a real person, Eren says. He met him later in Palestine, where Eren himself took shelter in 1933. "He was well acquainted with Leah Goldberg, the poetess, who wrote a short book about him after his death." Indeed, the picture Leah Goldberg draws of Sonne fits exactly the image Canetti portrays—that of a proud aristocrat detached from life, but with a colossal mind and a remarkably retentive memory. He was also a poet. He wrote in Hebrew, under the name Yitzhak ben Avraham, but published very little. He did not make literature; he lived it.

TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL: 8:00 Telecast 8:05 Keep Fit 8:15 School Broadcasts 14:00 Telecast 14:05 Keep Fit 14:15 Family Problems (Imported) 18:00 Tel Aviv 18:25 Behov Summum 18:00 The K-F-R—live magazine 17:00 A New Evening—live magazine
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES: 17:30 Micron 1—science fiction 17:35 Jene Jene, Part 5 of an 11-part adaptation of Charlotte Brontë's novel 18:25 A look at Beit Jibrin
ARABIC-LANGUAGE programmes: 18:30 News roundup 18:32 TV Magazine 18:30 Meeting—current affairs 18:30 News
HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at 20:00 with a news roundup 20:00 Programme Trailer 20:10 Mafes Sport 21:00 Mahal Newsround 22:10 To be announced 22:10 The Duma Bay. Part 1 of a 4-part Australian drama serial about Jewish refugees from Hitler's Europe, starring Joseph Spino, Bob Hoshins and Mary Anna Farber 22:00 Eduardo Ugazovsky—documentary about life in South America 22:45 News
JORDAN TV (unofficial): 17:30 Cantons 18:00 French Hour 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Getting Choked 21:10 Yes Prime Minister 22:00 News in English 22:00 Festivals
SINGLE EAST TV (From T.A. ports): 13:30 Another Life 14:00 700 Club 14:30 Ship-Up 15:00 Afternoon Movie: Border River 15:30 Headlight 17:00 Flying Horse 17:30 Mafes Sport 18:00 The Jeffersons 18:30 Doc 18:00 News 20:00 Headlight & McCormack 21:00 Facts of Life 22:00 Moonlighting 22:00 700 Club

RADIO

Voice of Music
6:02 Morning Melodies
7:00 Serenades: Fidelio, Overture, Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 5; Mozart: Concerto No. 1 in G major for Piano, K.37; Dvorak: Quartet in F minor (Rubinstein); 8:00 Beethoven, An the forme Geliebte; Kreutzer String Quartet; Schubert: Octet in F major; Brahms: Concerto No. 1 for Piano, Op. 15; Dvorak: Symphony No. 9 in D major, Op. 89
12:00 Radio: 16 Chapters for "For Children"; Mendelssohn: Sonata in D major for Cello and Piano, Op. 58 (Harol, Bondarenko); Ravel: Chansons macedoniennes
13:05 L. Mozart: Sinfonia in D "Postant Wedding" (Melkus), Boulevar. Harp Concerto in C (Lamert, Pans Chamber/Kuemet); Beethoven: Serenade in D major for Flute, Violin and Viola, Op. 25; Bachmannov: Suite No. 2 for 2 Pianos, Op. 17; Saint-Saens: Symphony No. 1 (Fans ORTF/Martini)
18:00 Encounters
18:00 Vera Weidman, violin; Emanuel Kravovky, piano—Fantasy in C major, D.934; Zur: Sonata, Korngold: Sonata in D major, Op. 6
19:00 French Baroque Music
19:00 Music Anthology
19:00 Light Classical Music
20:00 Intertide
20:30 The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, under David Robertson—Beethoven: Leonora No. 3, Overture; Prokofiev: Concerto No. 3 for Piano (Kalichestin); Silvestri: Symphony No. 1
22:00 "Golden Generation" Historical Recordings (Israelit)

First Programme

6:02 Programme for Olim
7:30 Favorites Old Songs
8:30 Compas—with Benny Harel
9:05 Hebrew songs
10:30 Programme in Easy Hebrew
11:05 School Broadcasts
11:30 Education for all
12:05 Story and Song
13:00 News in English
13:30 News in French
14:00 Children's programmes
16:30 Speaker's Platform
16:35 News on a New Book
16:50 An Unknown Land
17:20 Everyman's University
18:00 Jewish Traditions
18:30 Bible Reading
19:05 Lesson in Talmud
19:30 Programmes for Olim
22:00 Every Man has a Star—with astrologer Ben-Zion
22:00 Hebrew songs

Second Programme

6:12 Gymnastics
6:30 Editorial Review
6:55 Green Light—drivers' corner
7:00 The Morning—news magazine
8:05 Making an Issue
8:05 House Call—with Rivka Michaeli
10:05 All Shades of the Network—morning magazine
11:30 Safe Journey
12:00 K. on Two
13:00 Midday—news commentary, music
14:00 Humour
15:05 Magic Moments
16:05 Songs and Homeword
17:10 Economics Magazine
18:00 Hebrew songs
18:05 Today in Sport
18:35 This Week in the Knesset
20:00 Roads—folklore magazine
22:05 Round the World
23:05 Between Churches

Army

6:05 University on the Air
6:30 Open Your Eyes—songs, information
7:07 "707"—with Alex Ansky
8:05 Good Morning Israel
9:05 in the Morning—with Eli Yisraeli
10:05 Coffee Break
11:05 Right Now
12:05 Israel Times
13:05 Daily Meeting—with Orly Yaniv
14:05 Four in the Morning
17:00 Evening Newsround
18:05 Economics Magazine
18:05 Music
20:05 Army and Defence Magazine (re-past)
21:00 Mahal—TV newsround
21:30 University on the Air
22:05 Popular songs
23:05 Israeli songs
00:05 Night Birds—songs, chat

WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS 7.60 per line including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS 151.80 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI MUSEUM, Exhibitions: Kallit Hinnon—treasures facing Jerusalem's walls (Rockefeller) 0 Bethleem Embroidery, dresses and costume parts 0 Minus One Dimension—20th Century Sculptors' Drawings (until 15.12) 0 Photography in Nature 0 Art in Context, audio-visual programme 0 News in Antiquities 0 Big and Small, relative sizes in life, art and children's world 0 Jewels of Children's Literature 0 Permanent exhibitions of Archeology, Judaism and Ethnic Art.
VISITING HOURS: Main Museum 10-5, At 11: Guided tour of Museum in English, 11: Guided tour of Archeological Museum in English, 3: Guided tour of Judaism and Heritage galleries.
L.A. MAYER MUSEUM FOR ISLAMIC ART, Visiting hours: Sun-Thur. 10-11, 3-5, Fri. closed, Sat. and holiday even 10-12 Haploach St., Tel. 02-6812312, Bus No. 15.
Exhibitions
JERUSALEM MAP HOUSE, Old City, 7 Beit El St., 285338, 425447, Roberts, Turner, etc.
Conducted Tours
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1. Tours in English at 9 and 11 a.m. from Administration Building, Givat Ram Campus. Buses 9, 28, 24 and 18.
2. Mount Scopus tours 11 a.m. from Brodman Reception Centre, Shertan Brodman, Buses 9, 28, 46, 29 and 22 to the first underground stop. Further details: Tel. 02-682919.

AMIT WOMEN (formerly American Mizrahi Women), Free Morning Tours—8 Alkali Street, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-989222.

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TEL AVIV MUSEUM, Exhibitions: Oskar Kozakova, 1885-1980. Selection of Prints and Albums 0 Trends in Geometric Abstract Art 0 Simcha Gorman, Photographic Art, 1982-1986 0 Edward Munch, prints: Death, Love and Anxiety 0 The Museum's collection of Classical, Impressionist, Post-Impressionist and contemporary art. Visit. Hours: Sun-Thur. 10-2, 6-8, Sat. 11-2, 7-10; Fri. closed. Herta and Paul Amirson Exhibitions: Yair Garbus, "A Jew, A Peasant and an Arab," 10 works, 1986-88. Visiting Hours: Sun-Thur. 10-11, 5-7, Sat. 11-2, Fri. closed.
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HADASSAH VISITORS DEPT., Astor Hotel, Room 01, 105 Hayarkon St. At 02-223141.
HAIFA
MUSEUMS
HAIFA MUSEUM, 26 Shabtal Levy St. Tel. 04-523255, Exhibitions: Modern Art—Ephraim Monument: Natfali Nachmani, Revuven Atiya—colour photographs, Ancient Art—Jewish collection of the Second Temple Period, Egyptian tomb, terracotta figures, Music & Ethnology: world paper cuts. Open: Sun-Thur. 8-10, 1-4; Tue, Thur. & Sat. also 6-8. Ticket also admits to National Maritime and Prehistoric Museums.
WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-540640.

CINEMA

JERUSALEM
Beit August Youngblood 5; Top Secret 7:45; Vol 9: Flying High 12 midnight; Shmuel Ha'am: Trouble in Mind 7; Chessmate: Wild Strawberries 7; That Hamilton Woman 7:30 (small hall); Runaway Train 8:30; La Mandat 8:45 (small hall); Psycho 12 midnight; Eden: Zig Zag Story 4:30, 7, 9; Edison: Mickey Mouse 7, 8; Mahler Ricoches 4:30, 7, 9, 15; Jerusalem Theatre: Shosh (II) at 6:30; Shosh (II) at 11; Kfir: Hannah and Her Sisters 4:30, 7, 9; Mitchell: The Seven Years' Itch 7, 9; Little People 4:30, 7, 9, 15; Orion 01: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 02: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 03: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 04: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 05: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 06: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 07: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 08: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 09: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 10: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 11: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 12: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 13: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 14: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 15: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 16: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 17: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 18: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 19: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 20: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 21: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 22: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 23: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 24: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 25: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 26: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 27: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 28: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 29: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 30: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 31: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 32: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 33: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 34: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 35: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 36: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 37: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 38: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 39: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 40: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 41: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 42: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 43: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 44: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 45: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 46: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 47: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Orion 48: About Last Night 4:30, 6:45,

Christmas time and credit

Britain is full of Christmas cheer, but no one more so than the credit card companies

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent LONDON. — The pavements along Oxford Street and Regent Street are so crowded these days that people by the thousands are spilling over into the road, blocking traffic and turning London's West End into a frenzied chorus of hooting cars and shouting shoppers.

Yes, it's Christmas time again, and no amount of rain can dampen the traditional seasonal spirit of goodwill and generosity.

But for the millions of British families subsisting on low incomes or unemployment benefit, the advent of Christmas is no cause for celebration. There's hardly enough cash to pay the bills and feed the kids, never mind buy presents.

There's no better barometer of the man in the street's condition than the gritty British soap opera, and down in Brookside, out-of-work electrician Billy has had to "fix" the electricity meter so that it won't register the units consumed.

That fiddle hasn't made much difference to his family's financial plight, however. He owes £500 on his credit card and hasn't paid the mortgage for two months, so last week Billy took out a loan from one of the numerous agencies that now advertise in the popular dailies. He doesn't know how he'll ever pay it back; he's just hoping his luck is going to change.

Christmas is coming, but it's the loan agencies and the credit card companies, not the geese, that are getting fat.

Researchers estimate that half the goods sold in Britain this Christmas will be bought on credit — via Access, Barclaycard, American Express or one of the 1,200 individual store credit cards.

Britain has no central credit register — it is claimed, with some justification, that such a register would be an invasion of privacy — so there is nothing in theory to stop someone from obtaining every one of those 1,200 store credit cards, as well as the whole set of more general cards.

Credit cards have spread like the plague in the last 10 years, taking consumer debt from \$7.5 billion in 1976 to \$42b. (in current dollars) this year — or \$90 per adult.

The companies push the cards hard, sending them unasked through the mail, offering bonuses for customers who spend more with them. The day of reckoning catches many card holders unprepared, and incapable of meeting repayments. Often they have no choice but to take a loan from one of the agencies, paying crippling interest rates.

A spokesman for the House of Fraser group of department stores reflected the prevailing, rather hard-hearted attitude among credit card companies, saying that it was "up to customers to decide how much they can afford."

He rejected the charge that shoppers were induced to spend money that they didn't have, claiming that it was not in the stores' interest to push

people beyond their limit, because this would only lead to the loss of their custom.

The spokesman said "the majority of customers are scrupulous," but according to figures quoted in a recent BBC documentary on the subject, 7 per cent of those borrowing are already two months behind on existing debt payments.

For the Access and Barclaycard merchants, however, such moral considerations appear to matter little. In the cold climate of financial analysis, delinquent loans are amply covered by the sky-high interest rates charged to debtors. As long as that remains the case, the credit card brokers will have no cause to change their hard-sell marketing policy.

The illusion of wealth provided by a credit card — especially at Christmas time — will continue to attract cash-strapped families, for whom this season of goodwill may mean many leaner seasons to follow.



High hurdles face Turkey in bid for EC membership

ANKARA (Reuters). — Prime Minister Turgut Ozal plans to apply for Turkish membership in the European Community next year, but officials and diplomats anticipate a long and unpredictable road ahead.

Ozal's announcement to parliament during a budget debate Tuesday night came as no surprise, since he has suggested repeatedly in recent weeks that an application would come soon.

"Turkey will have to be careful on the timing of the application," a senior EC diplomat said. "The EC is faced with the problem of digesting Portugal and Spain. It will not be easy to handle a new application."

Greece, already an EC member, has made clear its objections to closer ties between the community and Turkey. Other potential stumbling blocks include the huge economic and bureaucratic adjustments which would be needed and concern among some states over Turkey's human rights record.

A senior Ozal adviser said Turkey accepted it would take a considerable time for the community to process the application and for negotiations on terms. Turkey has been an associate member since 1964, a status which foresees eventual full membership.

"The association agreement and the [1973] additional protocol to it have exhausted their potential for developing and improving relations with the EC," the adviser said.

He cited as examples \$600 million of aid to the country blocked by the EC after the 1980 military coup that is still not disbursed, restrictions on 54 per cent of Turkish exports to the EC and the community's rejection last month of free movement in member states for Turkish workers.

The adviser said Turkey foresaw the membership process following a timetable similar to that of Spain, which along with Portugal joined the community this year.

Madrid applied in July 1977 but did not join until January 1, with a transition process of up to 10 years to adjust fully to EC rules.

Turkey's population of 51 million, expected to reach 100 million in 30 years or so, would be an attractive, if an undeveloped, market for the community, the diplomat said.

THE TAX BURDEN/Jeff Broide

Recent developments

Here are some recent changes in tax rules:

SNACKS AND GIFTS: Money spent on light refreshments for customers or business associates, and served at the business premises, may be deducted at NIS 3 per person per day, but detailed records must be kept. The maximum amount allowed for tax purposes on business-related gifts is now NIS 30 per person per year. Gifts to employees, however, are limited to NIS 40 per employee for the year.

RAISING THE ACCOUNTING RULES: New tax regulations provide that on receipt of income through a third party or by direct bank transfer, a receipt can be issued once the recipient has been informed. The recipient may not have to issue a receipt at all if he maintains a double-entry accounting system, his books are audited by an outside accountant and the bank account, to which the receipt was transferred, forms part of the business's accounting system.

Another amendment permits the issue of a receipt on the delivery of the cheque to the business where the original receipt was received, off the business premises (e.g. by a messenger) but conditional on the cheque being crossed, that is "not negotiable" and bearer only, and the date of payment being indicated on the cheque. However, the receipt must be issued within one day of receipt by the messenger.

RECORDING RECEIPTS: On the subject of accounting, it is interesting to note that legal responsibility for the recording receipt of income falls squarely on the shoulders of the owner of a business. This is the law even if an employee errs in good faith or if the employer has no knowledge of such error, unless there is sufficient evidence that action was taken to ensure that employees knew and understood the instructions for recording receipt of monies.

NEW DEPRECIATION RATES: New depreciation rates for industrial enterprises, effective as of the current fiscal year, have been approved. The rules, based on two alternatives, are as follows:

a. Regular depreciation (fixed amount basis):	
Equipment used for:	
one shift	15%
two shifts	18%
three shifts	22%
b. Accelerated depreciation (reducing balance basis — only on equipment purchased in 1986):	
Equipment used for:	
one shift	20% of the balance for six years and the balance in the seventh
two shifts	24% of the balance for five years and the balance in the sixth
three shifts	30% of the balance for four years and the balance in the fifth

WORLD BUSINESS IN BRIEF

British executive charged with insider trading

LONDON (Reuters). — A court official here said yesterday that three charges alleging insider share trading are being brought against a former executive of a leading British merchant bank.

Geoffrey Collier, a stockbroker executive who resigned from merchant bankers Morgan Grenfell in November, is due to appear before a London Magistrate's Court on February 23. The court official said the three charges concerned insider dealing in the shares of AE PLC, an engineering company.

Meanwhile, supervisors from most major Western securities markets gathered at an undisclosed location in London for long-planned talks on how to police the fast-growing international trade in stocks and bonds. The British Department of Trade and Industry, which declined to give the venue of the meeting for reasons of privacy, said delegates would be discussing the "scope for cooperation in investigating and prosecuting [market] malpractices."

GREEK ECONOMY MINISTER Kostas Simitis yesterday hinted that the problems of the Greek economy were such that austerity measures may be needed beyond 1987 when the present belt-tightening program ends.

Simitis was speaking to reporters two days after European Community finance ministers approved a second instalment of a \$1.75 billion loan to help Greece with balance of payments difficulties.

"We haven't decided our economic policy for 1988, and it's been said before that our stabilization prog-

ramme will last for two years [1986 and 1987]," Simitis told reporters. "However, the problems won't disappear as if by magic next year and our policy in 1988 will have to face them."

He denied press reports that the EC ministers had made it a condition for approving the loan that Greece continue its austerity policy beyond 1987.

BRAZILIAN TRADE UNIONS plan an unprecedented general strike on Friday by up to 40 million workers to protest against price rises and to urge default on the country's \$103 billion foreign debt.

Union organizers have been touring cities in loudspeaker vans calling on people to fight against low wages, starvation and the "abominable foreign debt." However, it is far from clear how many will stay away from work. An opinion poll in the newspaper *O Globo* said 61 per cent opposed the strike.

The main purpose of the one-day strike, organized by the country's two leading trade union federations, is to seek the removal of steep price increases decreed last month on drinks, cigarettes, cars, fuel and other items.

AMID TRADE WAR FEARS European Community officials led by European Commission President Jacques Delors met in Brussels Friday with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

EC officials are worried that the U.S. administration would not be able to hold the line against protectionist pressures in a hostile Congress, especially as the EC is often seen in Washington as opposing U.S. interests.

The current flashpoint between the world's two biggest trading blocs is an end-of-year deadline for setting U.S. demands for compensation for lost grain exports to Spain since it joined the trade group earlier this year.

British Gas cited for its turgid prose

LONDON (Reuters). — The share prospectus of British Gas, privatised by the government this month amid massive publicity, has won the dubious accolade of a "Golden Bull Booby Prize for Gobbledygook" — turgid, nonsensical use of language.

The prize was awarded to the company at a London ceremony Tuesday by the National Consumer Council and the Plain English Campaign, which promotes the use by the government, business, lawyers and others of clear, straightforward English, and combats gobbledygook.

Among the most incomprehensible was a sentence in which applicants for British Gas shares were told that by signing the form they "agree that without prejudice to any other rights to which you may be entitled, you will not be entitled to exercise any remedy of rescission for innocent misrepresentation at any time after acceptance of your application."

Campaign co-ordinator Christine Maher asked: "How many millions of people who applied for shares actually understood what they were doing?"

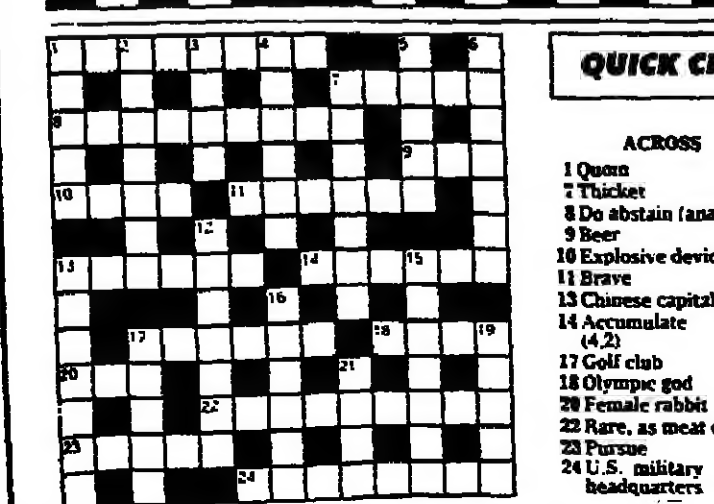
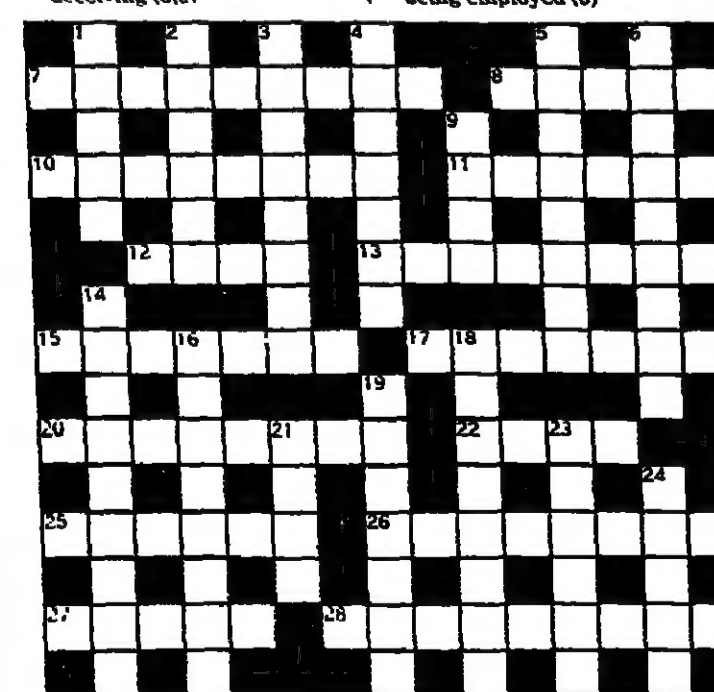
No British Gas representative was present to receive the award, a small golden bull mounted on a black plastic stand.

PRICES. — Annual inflation in the major non-Communist industrialized nations fell to its lowest level in 22 years in October, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said yesterday.

It said inflation in the 24 OECD members slowed to 2.3 per cent in the 12 months to October from 2.5 per cent in September.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 7 Affliction of blacksmith who dropped a clanger (6,3)
 - 8 Sally sounds destined to last a long time (5)
 - 10 Romantic tie-up despite pronounced advice against it (4,4)
 - 11 They don't mind their own business (6)
 - 12 Biblical prophet against being garlanded (4)
 - 13 Immense caper on a two-wheeled carriage (8)
 - 15 & 26 No hard-up quitter this overthrown last King of Rome (7,3,5)
 - 17 Charge for keeping silver in reserve (7)
 - 20 Complaint caused by fruit repeating, it's said (8)
 - 22 Eastender in church (4)
 - 25 Barbed fish in South Dakota (6)
 - 26 See 15
 - 27 & 28 Punishable crime that is deceiving (5,9)
- DOWN**
- 1 Returning as a bird in a Pacific archipelago (5)
 - 2 A parliamentarian before being a famous physicist (6)
 - 3 Toast in Italian port (8)
 - 4 He's got a way with him, although a prisoner (7)
 - 5 Dad the boss? Yes, as a rule (8)
 - 6 Charge on paper (9)
 - 9 Painful emotion of Greek god at Grangemouth (4)
 - 14 Conciliator working behind the scenes? (4,2,3)
 - 16 Fleet Street holds the key to be most expeditious (8)
 - 18 Ridiculous attempt to get out of a garment (8)
 - 19 Call to mind an Ancient Briton on the river (7)
 - 21 Extreme objectives (4)
 - 23 London highway along the coast (8)
 - 24 Pondered over a large number being employed (5)



SCRIBBLE PAD

Yesterday's Solution

PROFITABLE LOSS
HECROABEP
ADDENDA TWISTER
REBUICACFOG
CSELESER
WESTERN EXPRESS
IV
NESTEG SWALLOW
CPAAYAO
HOOK TRIEDTIER
EER
VASSAGE IMPULSE
CSNLUOR
WRITETHEDOWN

QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Enough, 4 Smiff, 8 Pacio, 12 Creeper, 16 Rolster, 11 Frog, 14 Keen, 15 Inch, 18 Gyp, 21 Rill, 23 Rambler, 25 Yiddish, 26 Union, 27 Range, 28 Beggar. DOWN: 1 Expert, 2 Outside, 3 Gloating, 4 Suet, 5 Upper, 6 Forage, 7 Scurf, 13 Titmouse, 16 Calling, 17 Prayer, 19 Prahu, 26 Krooner, 22 Laden, 24 Lime.

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Mafek: Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 333312.

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Haifa: Larindo

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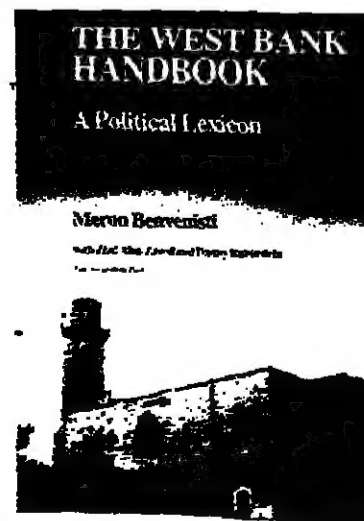
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Carmiel 588555 Netanya 23333
Dan Region 781111 Patah Tikva 5231111
Eilat 7233 Rehovot 481333
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Holon 803133 Tiberias 50111
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The National Poison Control Centre at Rambam Hospital, phone (04) 528205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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MARKET
PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

Pavlov's
bourse

The closing of the stock exchange yesterday was a predictable reaction to the mass of selling orders that were thrown at it. But it was also unnecessary, or at least done for the wrong reasons.

It is interesting to speculate what triggered the sudden panic. After all, reports of the content of the tax reform, including the probability of its containing some kind of capital gains tax having been running since last week. Yet, as this column noted on Tuesday, the market's reaction had been unusually subdued. Normally, the first whisper is enough to set the avalanche in motion; this time, it appeared, nothing was happening.

On Tuesday the market actually recovered slightly from its recent collapse. What happened overnight to change things? One possibility is that the more extensive coverage of the topic on TV in the main "Mabart" news, as well as on radio and in the press, focussed much more attention on the issue and set things in motion. Another is that what had been unconfirmed and unreported reports became something quite different after the finance minister spoke to Likud ministers and explained the content of the Treasury's plans to them. Maybe they triggered the avalanche? It would be nice to know, but we probably never shall.

In any event we were back to the well-trodden path of a market panic—the capital-gains-tax crash syndrome. This scenario has been run through so often over the years, that you would think that everyone knows their lines off pat. The exchange management gets on the phone to the Treasury, the latter trots out an announcement denying any evil intent and the exchange reopens, turns down and up for a few days, and then gets back to normal.

This time promises to be different. The first sign of that was the Treasury's tardiness in bringing out a statement. The second was the content of the statement itself. Instead of the usual total denial, which basically says the finance minister solemnly swears never to harm a hair on the head of any speculator, this one said there would be no tax on any existing forms of savings including securities. Full stop. What about future ones? The plain implication was that tax was on the agenda and would be brought in by the end of the year.

The plain implication was that tax was on the agenda and would be brought in by the end of the year. The plain implication was that tax was on the agenda and would be brought in by the end of the year. The plain implication was that tax was on the agenda and would be brought in by the end of the year.

Will this clarification stop the panic? The odds are that it won't, and past experience indicates that the urge to sell first and ask questions later will push many people to try and sell. Other, cooler heads, will take a ride on this panic and throw large sell orders onto the market to ensure that individual issues are marked "sellers only" because of huge imbalances between buying and selling orders. If enough issues are subject to this treatment—as happened yesterday—then the market will not be able to function. This is the proven method of the market manipulators to exert pressure on the government, by stage managing a "collapse," to force a total capitulation.

These tactics, and this reality, is why the closure yesterday was a mistake. Everyone with any experience of the market knows the capital gains tax syndrome, and all experience shows it is a disease that causes violent spasms but soon passes. It has become a fact of life on the exchange. If the exchange management thinks it should protect its charges, its sentiments are misplaced. The stock exchange investor of 1986 should be left open as often as possible to the vagaries of the market, and not mollified. The American investor managed to live with a tax reform process for nearly a year, from draft to final passage, without the exchange shutting.

If, conversely, the exchange really wants to maximize the degree of protection it currently extends, then it should shut down from now until the new economic plan, in all its details, is known and has passed the cabinet and Knesset. After all, the capital gains tax (or turnover tax), if that is what it turns out to be, is just one element of a much bigger programme. If the whole economy is to be reformed, how can investors make rational decisions?

But if that is nonsense—as most everyone would agree—then so is shutting, for one day, because of rumours, and unconfirmed reports. How often do people need reassuring that the government is not going to retroactively change the laws? Perhaps weekly trading shouldn't start on Sundays without an all clear from the Treasury—and maybe the Defence Ministry could issue a military prognosis as well, to reassure investors on that score?

CATALOGUE.—Marks and Spencer is considering plans for a full-scale mail order service. Results of a just-completed marketing test on 200,000 of its credit card holders, were reportedly encouraging rather than exciting, but the test service did not offer a large range of Marks and Spencer products, and the November period is traditionally quiet for sales.

Marks and Spencer is now likely to produce a faster catalogue for a wider audience, but it has not yet been announced whether the service will be available to customers overseas.

Treasury calms fears
Stock market shuts for one day
on a huge wave of sell ordersBy PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange reopens for trading in bonds and shares today after a one-day closure ordered by the exchange management after media reports of possible taxation on trading or profits sparked a huge selling wave.

Exchange requests for Treasury clarification of its policy intentions prompted an official statement denying any intent to tax existing financial assets. But the Treasury's response arrived too late to allow investors to change orders placed that morning.

The TASE thus said that all orders placed before noon yesterday, for any orders—including those placed prior to yesterday—were void. It added that new instructions would have to be given by anyone wishing to buy or sell. It also said it had exercised its authority to allow mutual funds to refuse to redeem units offered to it by their holders.

The responses by the Treasury and Amoral, however, gave rise to further speculation among analysts, since they did not rule out the possibility of a turnover tax on exchange transactions or a capital gains tax on new financial instruments at some future date. If a tax on new financial instruments were implemented, it would create a premium value on existing securities and would there-

fore be a reason for their price to rise, rather than fall.

The refusal of any Treasury officials to give information regarding any such future taxes strengthened speculation that the tax reform measures under consideration do in fact include moves in this direction.

Former TASE chairman Meir Heth, in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, defended the exchange's decision, saying that "the reports were driving the public mad, and it was necessary to clarify the situation." Once the government's intentions regarding existing investments were clear, Heth maintained, normal trading could resume, and any decisions could be responded to as the need arose.

The TASE is a self-regulating body, and its rules allow its management to stop trading for one day at its discretion, although it is obliged to inform the Treasury. A second successive day without trading, however, would require formal Treasury authorization.

Vered Hagalil ships its
first chocolate to U.S.

SAFAD (Item).—Vered Hagalil, the chocolate maker that has thrown down the gauntlet in a bid to capture a third of the local chocolate sales, began exports to the U.S. this week.

The first three containers—a total of 50 tons of chocolate—left the company's newly-opened plant here.

Although the company aims to capture a chunk of the domestic market for chocolate, where Elite Ltd. now dominates the scene, Vered Hagalil executives told a press conference yesterday that exports would take top priority.

The company has been forecasting first-year sales to the U.S. of some \$2 million, with exports to that reaching \$3 million in each of the subsequent two years. But a huge order, from an unidentified buyer, has changed all that.

The order, which will boost monthly production from 50 tons, as planned to 100 tons, starting in January, will probably bring sales in the first year to \$3.5m.

Because Vered Hagalil is giving clear preference to overseas sales, increased exports are likely to hurt development of the Israeli market. Vered Hagalil products have already begun to make a limited appearance on store shelves in Israel, under the Intermezzo name, but sales won't reach full levels until autumn 1987.

The company is now marketing its products through its own network, limiting itself to merchants with air conditioned stores, which can store the chocolate properly. Vered Hagalil officials admitted, however, that a certain amount had leaked through their marketing system and could be found in kiosks.

In export markets, Vered Hagalil's products will be sold under the name "Cortine"—a label that received a stamp of approval from a Tel Aviv University marketing expert as being appealing to the American consumer—and will retail for a steep \$1.29 a bar.

Vered Hagalil General Manager Ami Dolev said that under current conditions it was not profitable to export and that more money could be made in the local market. But, he said, the company was taking a long-term view, namely that the government would reconsider its export policy and resume incentive payments to manufacturers.

He said for many other manufacturers exports were no longer profitable but that they were continuing their overseas sales to meet contract commitments.

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Ha'argaz,
Koor in bid
for Argentine
building tender

By KEN SCHACHTER
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV.—Ha'argaz Ltd. and Koor Industries Ltd. are the powers behind an Israeli syndicate seeking to win a \$25 million contract to supply 5,000 50-square-metre prefabricated houses to the Argentine government, officials of Ha'argaz's Zrifin Wood and Metal Industries Ltd. unit said yesterday.

Also bidding for the project are companies from Sweden and Italy, they added.

Complicating the deal is Argentina's shortage of foreign currency, which may require it to send beef in partial payment of the contract.

A decision on the bid is expected in the coming weeks.

Officials also reported that Zrifin, which produces furniture, crates and prefabricated buildings, posted net sales of \$11.8m. for 1986. Exports accounted for \$1m. in sales. They cited no year-on-year figures.

Retail furniture sales through Ha'argaz's Arden retail chain reached \$2.5m. said Yehuda Barkai, managing director. Furniture production began in 1983 with sales of just \$15,000, officials said.

Officials also said work would be completed in January on a \$3m. project to supply all the furniture and woodwork for new construction at the Hebrew Union College campus in Jerusalem.

ENGLISH LINK.—A facsimile service between Israel and Britain, which allows the transmission of documents, drawings and graphics, began operating this week.

The problem for Prime Minister Jacques Chirac is that, although the economy is doing fairly well, other countries, and West Germany in particular, are doing better.

Helped largely by falling oil prices, France has cut its inflation rate this year to around 2 per cent and eradicated its trade deficit. But it still lags behind West Germany's negative inflation and substantial trade surplus.

And, although Chirac has pledged to end foreign exchange controls and liberalize the economy, it remains uncertain whether France will be able to match the degree of freedom allowed by either Britain or West Germany.

For foreign investors seeking shelter from a declining U.S. dollar, West Germany remains the more attractive haven, said Christopher Potts, senior economist at Banque Indosuez.

In 1987, the fate of the franc "won't be dictated by basic fundamentals but by international capital flows," he said.

That could mean a French franc devaluation against the mark of between 2 and 4 per cent in the spring, possibly followed by further small adjustments later in the year, foreign exchange dealers said.

U.S. trade deficit widened to \$37.7b. in third quarter

WASHINGTON (Reuters).—The U.S. merchandise trade deficit on a balance-of-payments basis was a record \$37.67 billion in the third quarter, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

The record trade shortfall came after two successive quarters of smaller deficits. The deficit was a revised \$35.67b. in the second quarter and \$34.46b. in the first three months of 1986.

The third-quarter deficit reflected a much larger gain in imports than the increase in exports. Imports rose \$2.17b., or 2 per cent, to a record \$92.99b., while exports increased only \$1.69 billion to \$55.32b.

The Commerce Department said non-petroleum imports were up in the third quarter, with the largest increase coming in passenger cars from areas other than Canada. Car imports jumped \$1.6b. or 20 per cent.

Farm
output
fell 2.5%
in year

By ANDY COURT
Israel's farmers produced 2.5 per cent less in the past agricultural year than the year before, according to tentative figures released Tuesday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Crop production declined 3 per cent, largely as a result of a 50 per cent plunge in the cotton harvest and a 9 per cent drop in citrus fruits grown. Flower growers, however, produced 13 per cent more than the previous year.

Livestock and animal products also decreased by about 2.5 per cent, the single biggest decrease being a 13 per cent drop in egg production.

The net domestic product—the difference between what the farmers must put into their businesses, not including salaries and interest on loans, and what they get as a result—declined 5 per cent. By comparison, in the previous year the net product had increased by 7.5 per cent.

"All in all, the farmers did less this year," said Nahum Kol of the statistics bureau's agriculture department. "But in agriculture you have to be careful about just looking at one year because one year can be good and another year can be bad."

Kol said the figures, for the 12 months through last September 30, were based on the most complete data available. Final figures will be available early next year.

Hoteliers score
Sharir on hike
in hotel rates

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Jerusalem hoteliers reacted angrily yesterday to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir's criticism this week of the 10 per cent increase in hotel tariffs for foreign individual tourists.

"Are you asking us to give our services gratis?" the Jerusalem Hotel Association asked Sharir in a sharply-worded cable.

Most tourists come in organized groups and pay less than 50 per cent of the official rate. The price increase for individual tourists, who represent only a small fraction of visitors to Jerusalem, according to JHA chairman Yehuda Greenbaum, was designed to partially offset hotel losses.

JHA members are expected to take Sharir to task when he speaks today at the closing session of the Israel Hotel Association's national convention in Tel Aviv.

Complaint against
IBA union chief

A formal complaint against Ze'ev Lebel, chairman of the Israel Broadcasting Authority workers' union, has been filed with the control commission of the Jerusalem Labour Council. The complaint, signed by the IBA management, charges that Lebel was directly responsible for the walkout November 29.

The dollar was stuck in a tight range yesterday, hovering just above the day's lows. As on Tuesday, it came under pressure after failing to make ground above 2.02 Deutschmarks. A record third-quarter U.S. trade deficit was a mild negative, but traders are awaiting today's November U.S. retail sales and a Friday producer prices for a fresher reading of the economy.

ISRAELI STOCKS
TRADED IN NEW YORK:

NYSE and ASE

Symbol	Last	Prev. Close	High	Low	Vol ('00s)
Alliance	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	47
Amir Pap	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	27
Ampal	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	40
Elcoteq	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	436
Etz Lavud	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	70
Laser Inds	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	70

Over the counter

Symbol	Last	bid	ask	Symbol	Last	bid	ask
Aryt	—	6 1/2	7	Interpharm	—	4	4 1/2
Bank Leumi	—	21 1/2	23 1/2	Opotech	—	3 1/2	3 3/4
Elbit	7 1/4	7 1/4	7 1/4	Roda	—	3	3 1/4
ECI Tel.	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	Scotex	—	3 1/4	3 1/2
Elron	5	5	5	Taro-vit	—	2 1/2	2 3/4
Fibronica	6	5 1/2	6	Tevapharm	—	6 1/2	6 3/4
IDB Bank	—	48	52	US XCP	—	2 1/4	2 1/2
IS	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/2	SPI	—	2 1/4	2 1/2

WALL STREET Closing Prices

Dow Jones Indices

Index	Value	% Change
IND	1,322.09	+15.19
TRANS	345.07	+3.59
UTILS	212.17	+0.88
65 STKS	757.92	+4.75
NYSE COMP	143.42	+0.82
NYSE IND	165.10	+1.05
S-P 500 INDEX	258.70	+1.71
S-P COMPOSITE	250.89	+1.61
AMEX INDEX	268.47	+1.11

NYSE Highest Volume

Statistics

Index	Value	% Change
NYSE VOL	139,333,650	—
NASDAQ VOL	116,339,400 (Dec. 9)	—
STOCKS UP	863	DOWN 708
STOCKS UP	874	DOWN 1,366

Comment

Strength in blue chips and the market's apparent resolve not to sell off, yesterday helped to trigger some buy programs that propelled the broad market higher. Volumes, however, remained light as investors await economic news late this week, that may help determine interest rate policy.

IBM jumped 1 1/2 to 128 1/2. Kodak 1 1/2 to 59 and General Motors 1/2 to 7 1/4. Schlumberger rose one to 34 1/2.

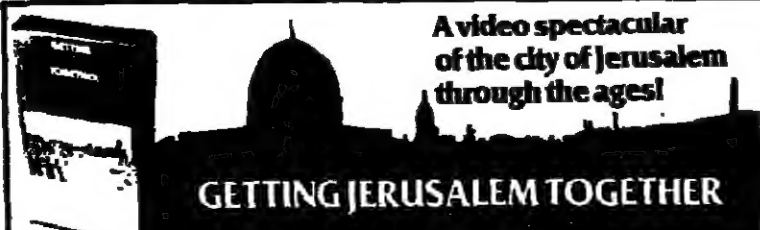
OVERSEAS FINANCIAL DATA

PROVIDED BY REUTERS' MONITOR

Ministry of Education and Culture
Services Department. Tender 24/12.86

Price bids are invited for the transporting of teachers from East Jerusalem to Ayn Rafa by taxis or minibuses.

Details from Ms. Cila Mahlab, Tenders and Purchasing Dept., 34 Shvital Yisrael, Pavilion A, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-278216. Bids must be submitted by Wednesday, December 24, 1986 (12 noon). They should be placed in the tenders box in the Tenders and Purchasing Dept.



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P.O. Box 20126 (61001) Telephone 294222, 288231-4 (six lines) Fax 288232. HAIFA 16
Rehov Nardim, Hadar Hacharmel, P.O. Box 4810 (31047) Telephone 645444. Published
daily, except Saturdays, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Jerusalem Post Ltd. Printed by The
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The cost of occupation

SUDDENLY, it seemed we were back in the bad old days when the Security Council would routinely flay Israel for merely protecting itself from marauders and terrorists; when the U.S. would, if not actually support such condemnations, at least abstain in the votes so as to allow them to pass, and when this country's government would brush it all off as proof that the world is just hopelessly against us.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman professed not to have been surprised by the council's lopsided 14-0 vote Monday night in favour of a resolution deploring the killing and wounding of "defenceless students" by Israeli troops in the West Bank this week. The resolution, said the ministry spokesman, was typical of the council's attitude "which did not contribute in the past and is not contributing presently to the struggle against terrorism." But the spokesman had only the mildest rebuke for the U.S., which let the resolution pass by its abstention.

It had been a mistake, he suggested, without bothering to explain what sort of mistake.

Yet why did the U.S. refrain this time from exercising its right of veto, which has been a regular instrument of American diplomacy at the UN during the Reagan years? Was it just a tactical means of appeasing the Arabs who had been aroused by the arms deal with Iran? Or was it perhaps also an indirect reminder that even this most friendly U.S. administration, committed as it is to the fight against terrorism, does not view the occupied territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as necessarily Israel's rightful possessions?

After nearly 20 years of occupation a very large number - if not a majority - of Israelis have come to consider the land between the sea and the river as naturally Israel's. The present government undertook not to force any unilateral change in the political status of the territories during its lifetime, but the process of annexation on the ground goes on all the time.

While, however, the territories are being creepily integrated into democratic Israel's body politic, the 1,200,000 Palestinians who inhabit them remain subject to the harsh and sometimes brutal realities of occupation.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin does not seem overly disturbed by the contradiction. Mr. Rabin is not among those who believe that a political settlement will emerge from the barrel of the gun. He is determined to keep suppressing PLO terrorism until such time as conditions are created for a dialogue between Israel, Jordan and the great moderate bulk of the Palestinians in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

On the face of it, this is a laudable ambition. But the defence minister must also know that the territories can never be made peaceful without a peaceful settlement. Continued occupation breeds not quiescence and moderation but frustration and resistance. While it is schoolchildren and university students who serve as the spearhead, they do so with the encouragement of their parents.

Surely it is time to wake up to the fact that the origins of the troubles are not only across the border, but also right here, and that the allegiance owed to the PLO is not so much imposed as generated by the occupation itself.

Trade and be damned

FOR THE SECOND time in nine months, and for the umpteenth time in the last decade, a wave of selling orders, triggered by rumours of the imminent introduction of capital gains tax, has led to the closure of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. The suspicion that these rumours, and many of the selling orders, are deliberately planted and then exploited by some of the savvy market participants to achieve exactly this kind of panic, and thus force the government to change its mind, is ignored by the exchange management, which prefers to play into their hands by stopping trading, supposedly in the interest of the "small investor."

The Treasury's ritual denial will this time fail to convince anybody that it is not planning to tax gains from share trading. The statement it belatedly issued yesterday was clear only on the point of not taxing existing investment vehicles of all sorts. By implication it therefore confirmed that future savings would be taxed - and this, as far as is known, is part of the major tax reform being planned.

The likelihood is, therefore, that today will see another selling wave, so that exchange chairman Haim Stossel and managing-director Yossi Nitzani will again be under pressure to appeal to the Treasury for "clarifications." Should this occur, they would be doing their institution, and the general public, the greatest public service if they this time stood up to the manipulators and called their bluff, by keeping the exchange open. Even in the worst case, if prices fall sharply for a few days, there is no need for alarm, because the lower prices will call forth buyers, including the institutional investors who increasingly dominate the market.

Beyond that, there is no valid reason not to bring in a capital gains tax, at a reasonable level, on stock exchange profits, especially if it is part of a wide-ranging tax reform that will also reduce corporate taxation and encourage listed companies to pay their shareholders regular cash dividends. Most serious market participants agree that Israel need not be more generous in this regard than, say, the U.S., where capital gains have long been taxable.

ECONOMIC

(Continued from Page One)

Labour and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katsav sharply criticized the plan, saying that hurting the poor would provide no cure for the country's financial ills, but would deepen its social problems. Katsav complained that the Likud does not look after its own ministries as Labour had during Peres's tenure as premier. Katsav maintained that Labour had "pampered its own ministries." Likud sources indicated that Deputy Prime Minister David Levy is also opposed to the plan.

Sources close to Shamir told The Post last night that they "hope that the debate will limit itself to the serious problems at hand and will not degenerate into a confrontation along party lines. There is no discrimination against Labour ministries. It is only natural that cuts in defence, education and health would be sizeable, as these ministries receive the greatest chunk of the government's budget."

On the Likud side, trouble was brewing from the direction of Herut's welfare lobby, which is already protesting what it calls "a typical Liberal Party scheme that would benefit the 'haves' at the expense of the 'have-nots'."

Caught between double standards

Harry J. Lipkin

THE PRESENT crisis about arms shipments to Iran and the linkage with the Contras in Nicaragua may be only the beginning of a long conflict between pro-Iranian and pro-Arab factions in the U.S., with the Jews and Israel caught in between and blamed for everything by both sides.

There are many disturbing signs that the Iranian affair bodes no good for the Jews. Although nobody is saying this publicly, a significant number of American policy makers, particularly among those who support aid to the Contras, may well believe that an Iranian victory in the Gulf War would be good for the United States. The Arabs are afraid that Khomeini's Islamic revolution will sweep through the Arab world. Israel has good reasons to be afraid also. But why would this be bad for the U.S.?

There are many reasons why certain elements in the Reagan administration would prefer to deal with Khomeini and his successors rather than with the Arabs. The Islamic fighters in Afghanistan, who receive arms from the U.S., are the only forces directly fighting the Soviet Red Army. Islamic fundamentalism is no threat to the U.S., which has a negligible Islamic population. But it can be a serious nuisance to the Russians and Chinese, who have Moslem populations in sensitive border areas. Sending arms to Khomeini and his Islamic fighters seems quite natural to anti-Communist Americans, even if it antagonizes the Arabs.

No one knows how long the Saudi dynasty will last. It is better to have Khomeini in the Saudi oil fields than the Russians or their proxies in some future leftist revolution. Khomeini will need to sell the oil and may even give the West a better deal than the Saudis.

Many anti-Communist Americans place high priority on supporting a strong Iranian army whose main job is preventing the Soviets from marching across Iran into the oil fields. This was a central aim of U.S. policy during the days of the Shah. The Shah is gone, but Iran is still there and it is good for the U.S. to do business with whatever government is running the country.

Iran even with Khomeini prefers the CIA to the KGB. Khomeini is anti-Communist and is reported to have used CIA information on KGB agents and communists in Iran to get rid of the KGB and the communist

Tudeh party in the early days of the revolution. There still must be many open channels of communication with the CIA remaining from the old days.

Nobody really knows what will happen tomorrow in Iran. Some analyses by so-called Mideast experts of Iran after Khomeini may seem reasonable. But none of these experts had ever heard of Nasser, Khomeini and Gaddafi before they toppled the regimes in Egypt, Iraq and Libya. If an equally unknown Iranian colonel is waiting for his opportunity, we can be sure that none of these experts have heard of him.

IN THE U.S., anti-Communism and anti-Semitism confuse the issues in the conflict between pro-Iranian and pro-Arab elements concerned about "retaining influence in the Arab world." Many pro-Iran extremists are not interested in the welfare of the Iranian people but support any regime that is anti-Communist and ready to fight the Russians. Many pro-Arab extremists are not interested in the welfare of the Arab people but support any regime that is against the Jews and ready to fight the Israelis. These anti-Communists and anti-Semites never state such aims openly, but cover them up with double-talk about democracy, racism, self-determination and all the other slogans common in UN debates.

Anti-Communist extremists tend to support any forces "fighting Communism" regardless of their moral values, attitudes toward human rights, support of terrorism or any realistic evaluation of their strength. They support corrupt, oppressive governments which are eventually overthrown, as in Cuba, Nicaragua and the Philippines, as well as "Bay of Pigs" type operations which are doomed to failure from the outset.

Anti-Semitic extremists have generally managed to hide their true identity behind a facade of pro-Arab sentiments or anti-Zionism. But a closer investigation reveals their true feeling. Francophiles are motivated by a sincere interest in the French language, history, literature and culture. The language, history, literature and culture of the Arabs and Islam have a comparable richness. But many active American support-

ters of the Arab cause show no interest in anything Arab except their conflict with Israel. This has recently been pointed out by Arab intellectuals in America, who deplore the fact that so many American supporters of the Arab cause seem to be motivated more by a hatred of the Jews and Israel than by a real desire to help the peoples of the Arab world. They assert that this anti-Semitism has completely distorted U.S. policy toward the Arab world and prevented the U.S. from giving the Arabs the kind of assistance they really need and that the U.S. can provide.

Evidence for a strong anti-Israel bias showed up in the Lebanese war, when criticism of Israel was exaggerated out of all proportion. There are still references in the media to the Israeli responsibility for the massacres at Sabra and Shatilla. But Elie Hobeika, the Lebanese commander who directed the massacres, is portrayed in supposedly objective newspapers like The New York Times as a "moderate, pro-Syrian Christian leader," and his role in the massacres is never mentioned. Very little attention is paid to the massacres of Palestinians today by the Shi'ites.

Every hint that Israel may have had some connection with the funneling of money to the Contras gets prime time on U.S. TV and much space in the media. There are also indications that the Saudis played a big role in these deals as well. But judging from past experience, any Saudi connection will not be given much space in the media, and any evidence will be swept under the rug by the powerful pro-Saudi lobby in the U.S. This continuing double standard in media reporting on Israel and the Arabs reflects a very disturbing anti-Semitic bias.

These forces are a serious threat to the efforts of those sincerely interested in the peaceful development of the Middle East and a just solution of its difficult problems. The one great breakthrough in this direction by Americans, Israelis and Arabs working together was the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. This three-way collaboration must be strengthened, in order to be able to fight off the attacks of the anti-Communist and anti-Semitic extremists who have no interest in the welfare of the people of the Middle East.

The writer is a member of the department of nuclear physics at the Weizmann Institute.

Politics and powercuts

Aaron Leibel

EVERY EVENING, my neighbours and I in a "new Jerusalem neighbourhood" get out our candles in preparation for our journey back to the Dark Ages. Our trips, educationally, for they show us how our ancestors lived before the discovery of electricity, sometimes last for a second, or 15 minutes, occasionally longer. Last week, we sat in the dark, shivering in the cold, for six hours. Our great benefactor in these learning experiences is the Jerusalem District Electricity Company, commonly, if incorrectly, known as the East Jerusalem Electric Company.

While not very adept at supplying electricity, the company for years has waged an effective campaign against its closure, charging that right-wing Israelis are bent on closing it down for political reasons. It is the largest Arab owned and operated employer on the West Bank, claim representatives of the firm, and putting it out of business would be another blow against Palestinian nationalism, and a big step toward

incorporating the territories into the State of Israel.

But while fighting for its survival, the company has neglected to improve its electricity-supply system - its *raison d'être*.

DURING all our years of dark, freezing nights, of rescuing terrified children from stalled elevators, few of our elected representatives have rushed to our defence, apparently indifferent to our fate or taken in by the company's campaign of substituting political rhetoric for service. The municipality, while not administratively responsible for the company's failures, still has a moral obligation to speak out when a basic need like electricity is not being provided to its residents. Its spokesmen have been strangely silent.

The Energy Ministry, which is charged with assuring the supply of

electricity, has acted against the company but only because the JDEC owes NIS 20 million to its Israeli counterpart. There have been hints that if it does not pay its debt, the company's concession to supply electricity would not be renewed after it comes up for review at the end of next year.

But the company's debts are not at issue. An electric company's task is to supply electricity. If it cannot, then its duties should be transferred to a company that can, regardless of its financial status.

Such a company, the Israeli Electric Corporation, exists. (Its customers also suffer occasional power failures, caused by violent storms or broken tree limbs. We have no electricity on cloudless nights and there are no trees big enough to interfere with power lines in any of the new neighbourhoods of east and north Jerusalem. In any case, the IEC's service can hardly be worse than that of JDEC.)

There is, of course, an alternative: the company could improve its services. But excuses, political or otherwise, won't do. Our candles - and patience - are running out.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

REAGAN

(Continued from Page One)

approve weapons sales to that country. As outlined by American specialists, these Israeli interests include a desire to:

- Prolong the Iran-Iraq war. Israeli leaders were anxious to see the war continue without either Iran or Iraq victorious. A prolonged war would clearly divert Arab and Islamic economic and military resources away from any potential threat against Israel.
- Assist the endangered Jewish community in Iran.
- Increase Israeli arms sales to Iran. During the days of the shah, Iran was a major customer of Israeli-made weapons. These deals were a significant source of income for Israel. Israeli arms exporters reportedly wanted to regain that market. While relatively modest amounts of Israeli arms sales to Iran continued "on and off" after the revolution in Iran, an American official said, no big sales were concluded. Israel thus had an economic interest in trying to shift the U.S. attitude toward such deals.
- Strengthen those Iranian military officers and political leaders who were willing to work quietly with Israel. Some of these officials were said to have had good relations with Israel during the shah's rule and had not been killed or purged after the rise of the Ayatollah Khomeini's fundamentalist regime.

The U.S. and Israel shared an overall geo-strategic interest in trying to keep the Soviet Union from expanding its influence in Iran. The U.S. and Israel also wanted to prevent the Soviets from controlling

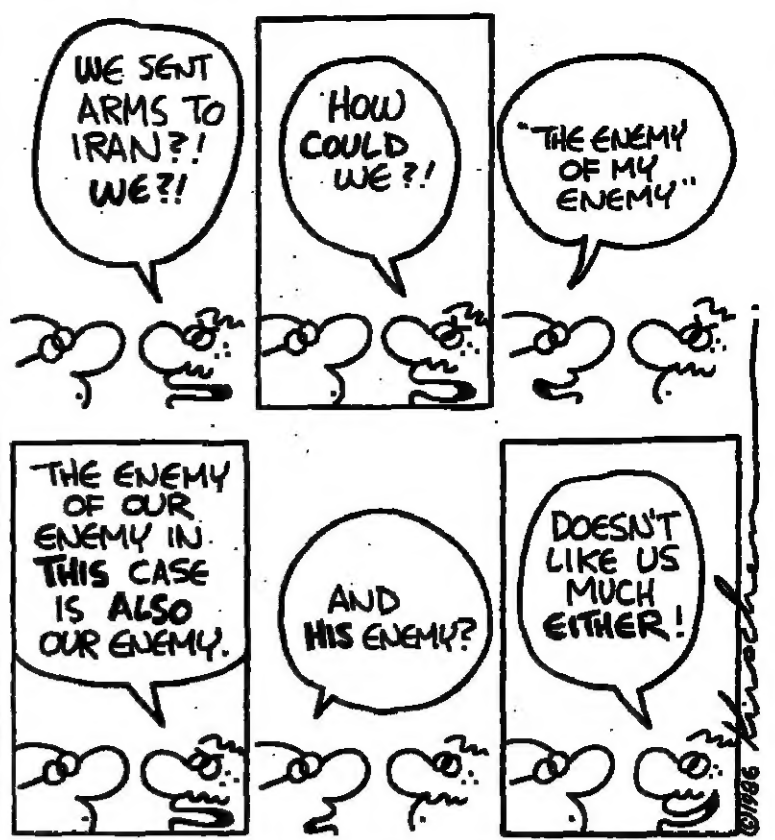
Iran's oilfields and from acquiring a warm-water port in the Persian Gulf. During his closed-door testimony on Monday, McFarlane said that he had met with a senior aide to Rafsanjani during his trip to Teheran in May. But he and his entourage, which included ousted National Security Council staffer Oliver North, did not meet with the speaker himself, although they had earlier expected to.

The Washington Post yesterday reported that McFarlane had told Congress he had broken off his four days of talks in Teheran after Rafsanjani's senior defence adviser informed him that additional arms shipments would be needed to gain the release of the American hostages.

"McFarlane was carrying negotiating instructions from Reagan that were intended to open a new political relationship between Teheran and Washington," the report said. "He had been led to believe by his successor as national security adviser, Vice Admiral John Poindexter, that his arrival in Teheran would consummate a prearranged deal for release of the U.S. hostages."

But he learned upon arrival that the hostages had not been released. He spent much of his time in Teheran negotiating unsuccessfully for their release. "When he returned to Washington and reported to the President in early June," the report continued, "his advice was that the Iranians were not ready for a new relationship and that the entire programme should be scuttled."

Dry Bones



READERS' LETTERS

WARNING ABOUT CONTRAS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - With regard to the Contra affair in Central America, Israel should keep in mind the following when considering participation therein:

Only President Reagan and his administration favour the Contras without reservation. The Congress split roughly 50:50 on Contra aid, which barely passed and today would probably fail. Some polls show as high as 75 per cent of the American people opposed to the Contras.

Included in the latter are many of us who feel that the Contras are a terrorist organization akin to the PLO, are repelled by their make-up and methods, are totally opposed to government support of such an immoral and illegal operation, and are not well-disposed to others who do.

Accordingly, Israel should keep in mind that blindly doing Reagan's bidding could have negative repercussions in days to come.

DAVID B. PENDLEY
Pensacola, Florida.

LEARNING HEBREW

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, - I am a new immigrant and I ask: how does a new immigrant learn basic Hebrew and work at the same time?

I work from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., five days a week, but all the ulpanim in the Tel Aviv area hold classes four days a week, and start at 4:40 p.m. I am at present trying to study on a four-nights a week basis. These classes start at 4 p.m., but I can't arrive until 6:30 p.m., after the break. Thus, I miss half a lesson each day.

Some nights, after a nine-hour workday, it is a major effort for me to go to class, but I force myself to do so. And I am not the only one in my class who has this problem and makes the effort.

Don't the government and privately-run ulpanim realize that a large number of people who attend evening classes work during the day, and that there are those who find it very difficult to get time off from work four days a week?

I have been trying for six months to find classes that are two nights a week or that start later. When I enquire, I am told that 4-4:30 p.m. is the starting time and that it is my problem.

It is no wonder, under these circumstances, that 60 per cent of new immigrants leave within the first year of their arrival.

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